

PEOPLE'S CHINA



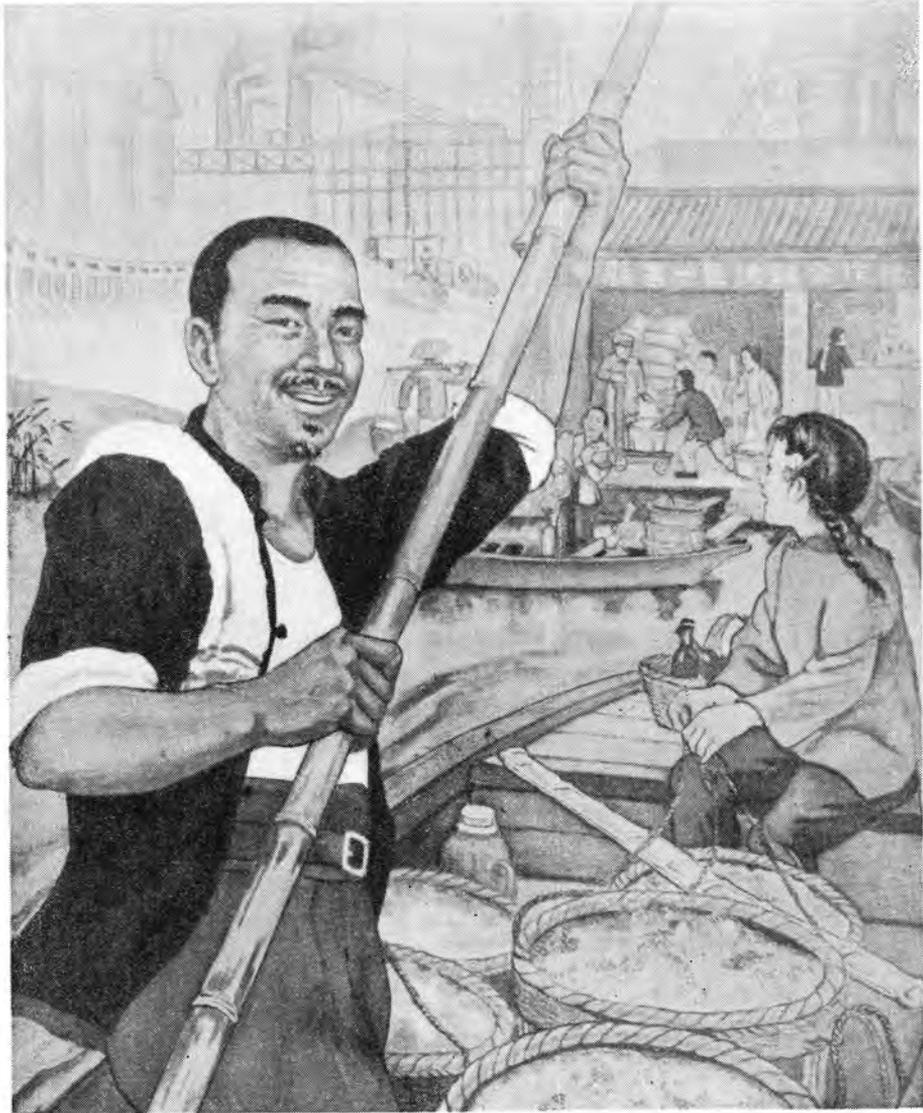
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CHINA TODAY	

FORTNIGHTLY

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Sell Surplus Grain to the State to Support Industrial Construction!

Poster by Chih Ko

Leninism Guides the Chinese People

From Victory to Victory

Shih Cheh

ON January 21 thirty years ago Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, the leader of genius and teacher of the labouring people of the whole world, the founder of the world's first Socialist state and of the heroic Communist Party of the Soviet Union, departed from the world.

It is thirty years since the great Lenin left us, but his teachings, invincible in their power, and the immortal cause for which he laboured, live on and will forever live in the hearts of the labouring people the world over. It is with the warmest love and the deepest admiration that the Chinese people, together with the great Soviet people, the peoples of the People's Democracies and the labouring people throughout the world, honour this brilliant leader of all progressive mankind, their own best friend and teacher—V. I. Lenin.

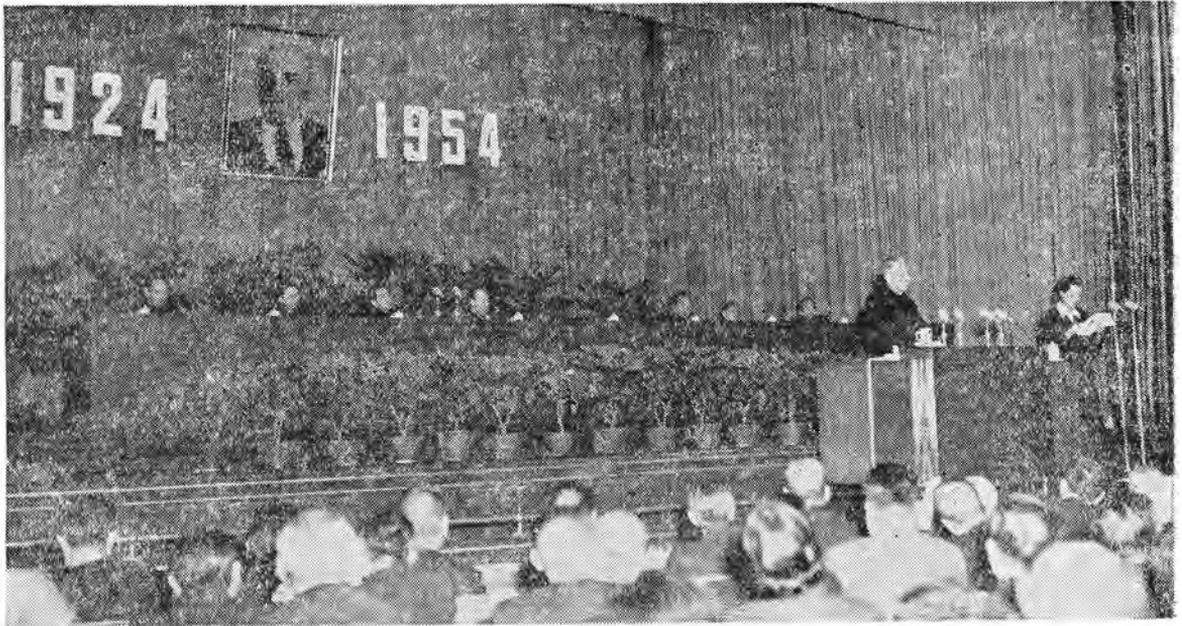
Lenin on the Chinese Revolution

Throughout the whole of his revolutionary career, Lenin showed his constant concern for the Chinese people and their destiny. He had a firm faith in the strength of the revolutionary forces in China; he had a deep sympathy for the Chinese people in their revolutionary struggle, and gave them his strong support. The great teachings of Lenin have been the guide of the Chinese people in their struggle for liberation; and now, today, following the victory of the people's revolution, they are lighting the way of the Chinese people as they advance towards Socialism.

More than half a century ago, Lenin already raised his voice in defence of the Chinese people against the imperialists who were mauling China. In 1900, when the allied troops of eight imperialist countries bloodily suppressed the Boxer Uprising against the imperialists, Lenin wrote an article for the first issue of the *Iskra* trenchantly denouncing "the policy of the tsarist government in China" as "a criminal policy." He exposed the crimes of the European imperialist powers who "began zealously to loot, or as they put it, to 'lease,' the Chinese territory." He pointed out that the Chinese people's struggle for liberation was not caused by "the hatred of the yellow race towards the white race" as those who advocated war had said but by the policy of plunder and aggression of the imperialist powers. Lenin wrote at that time:

The Chinese people do not hate the European people, they have never had any quarrel with them. They hate the European capitalists and the European governments which are obedient to the capitalists. (*The Chinese War.*)

The great Lenin hailed the victory of the 1911 Revolution in China (the bourgeois revolution which in 1911-1913 overthrew the Chinese monarchy). In 1912, in the *Resolution on the Chinese Revolution of 1911* adopted by the Prague Conference of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party, Lenin pointed out the world significance of the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people. He wrote: "This revolutionary struggle will bring libera-



Liu Shao-chi, Secretary of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, delivering his address at a meeting held in Peking on January 20, 1954, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the death of V. I. Lenin. On the presidium are (from left to right): Peng Chen, Kao Kang, Chou En-lai, P. F. Yudin (Ambassador of the U.S.S.R. to China), Chu Teh, Chen Yun and Peng Teh-huai

tion to Asia, and undermine the rule of the European bourgeoisie....” He further noted that the proletariat in Russia was following the successes of the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people with deep interest and sympathy.

At the same time, Lenin made a profound analysis of the conditions and the future perspectives of development of the Chinese revolution. He pointed out that Sun Yat-sen was a Chinese revolutionary democrat, whose programme, directed against imperialism and feudalism, represented the “really great ideology of a really great people.” Lenin at that time foresaw the inevitable development of capitalism in China. He pointed out that the Chinese proletariat would grow together with the growth of industry in China, and that it would eventually found its own political party. In his article *Democracy and Narodism in China*, published in 1912, Lenin wrote:

The proletariat in China will grow with the increase of the number of Shanghais in China. It will surely found a social democratic labour party in China of some kind or other, which, while criticizing Sun Yat-sen’s petty bourgeois

utopias and his reactionary viewpoints, will certainly carefully pick out, preserve and develop the revolutionary democratic core in his political and agrarian programme.

Lenin also showed that without a real democratic upsurge which would mobilize the labouring masses, the Chinese people would not really be able to emancipate themselves from slavery and that only under the leadership of the proletariat would the labouring masses be able to hold their own against the liberals.

Lenin created the theory of the revolution in colonial and semi-colonial countries, a theory imbued with deep sympathy for the Asian peoples oppressed by imperialism. Lenin’s theory has given the peoples of the colonial countries in the East, including the Chinese people, an invincible ideological-theoretical weapon in the revolutionary struggle for their own liberation.

Stalin, talented successor to the immortal work of the great Lenin, further developed Lenin’s theory concerning the revolution in colonial and semi-colonial countries, including

that on the problems of the Chinese revolution. The historical progress of the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people has fully proved the correctness of the theory of Lenin and Stalin.

The Great October Socialist Revolution led by Lenin and Stalin exercised a tremendous influence on the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people. As Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said:

The salvoes of the October Revolution awoke us to Marxism-Leninism. The October Revolution helped the progressives in China and throughout the world to adopt the proletarian world outlook as an instrument for studying a nation's destiny and reconsidering their own problems. The conclusion was: "Follow the path of the Russians." (*On People's Democratic Dictatorship.*)

Following the victory of the October Socialist Revolution, the political party of the proletariat in China—the Communist Party of China—was founded. It was built up on the basis of the Leninist principles of Party organization and on the model and the experiences of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In directing the revolutionary struggles of China, the Communist Party of China has consistently used Marxism-Leninism as its guide.

Applying Marxism-Leninism in China

Led by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the Communist Party of China has, in applying Marxism-Leninism to the concrete practice of the revolution in China, based itself on the views of Lenin, who, in a statement addressed to Communists in the countries of the East in 1919, said:

Relying on Communist theory and practice in general and applying them to specific conditions which do not exist in Europe, you must be able to apply this theory and practice to a situation in which the peasantry are the main mass and it is necessary to solve the problem of struggle not against capital but against the survivals of mediaeval times. (*On the Awakening of the Peoples of the Nations in the East.*)

Our Party, led by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, has creatively applied Marxism-Leninism—the highest achievement of human wisdom—to a huge semi-colonial and semi-feudal country in which the peasantry are the main mass, and in which the fundamental task of the first stage

of the revolution is to fight against imperialism and feudalism, where the enemies of the revolution were extremely strong, the class structure of society was especially complicated, the political and economic situation changed rapidly, and where, in consequence, the revolutionary struggle was extremely difficult. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has solved a whole series of problems of the Chinese revolution, further developed Marxism-Leninism in relation to the conditions in China and the East, and guided the Chinese revolution to victory.

Both Lenin and Stalin, and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet state which they founded, and the Soviet people reared by them in the spirit of internationalism, have given the Chinese people moral and material support at every stage of their revolution. Indeed, the fraternal sympathy and assistance given to the Chinese people by the Soviet people is one of the important factors that facilitated the victory of the Chinese revolution.

As Comrade Mao Tse-tung, great leader of the Chinese people, has said:

... It was by following the teachings of Lenin and Stalin, and with the support of the great Soviet state and all the revolutionary forces of other countries, that the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people won their historic victory a few years ago. (*The Greatest Friendship.*)

The victory won by the Chinese people in their struggle against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism after long years of bitter struggles led by the Communist Party of China, is a victory of the great teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin in a vast country of more than 500 million people, comprising one-fourth of mankind. The victory of the Chinese people is the most powerful blow dealt against the imperialist system since the Great October Socialist Revolution breached the front of world imperialism and opened a new epoch of colonial revolutions under the leadership of the proletariat.

This victory has immensely strengthened the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism headed by the great Soviet Union. It has inspired all the oppressed peoples in their struggle for national independence and freedom. The Chinese people, by their victory, have

made a tremendous contribution to the cause of peace and advanced the development of the great movement of the peoples of all countries in defence of peace.

Following the victory of the revolution, the Chinese people immediately set their hands to the rehabilitation of their economy. Thanks to the fraternal and selfless help of the Soviet Union, we have successfully completed the task of the rehabilitation of the national economy within the short space of three years. This has laid the foundation for the large-scale, planned economic construction of our country.

The General Line and Main Tasks

China has already commenced this planned economic construction. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has pointed out the general direction of advance, namely, the general line of policy and main tasks of our country in the transitional period:

The Party's general line of policy and main tasks in the transitional period is, over a relatively long period, to realize step by step the Socialist industrialization of the country and the Socialist transformation of agriculture, handicraft production and private industry and commerce.

The first five-year plan of our country started in 1953 is the first concrete step taken to realize the general line of policy laid down by Chairman Mao Tse-tung. The central task of our nation's first five-year plan is to concentrate its main strength on the development of heavy industry, which is the basis for industrialization. Without heavy industry, our industry cannot achieve an all-round development, and consequently without it our country cannot become economically independent.

The teachings of Lenin and Stalin on Socialist construction have clearly shown the decisive significance of heavy industry for industrialization. Comrade Stalin has emphasized that:

...Only heavy industry is capable of reconstructing industry as a whole, as well as the transport system and agriculture, and of putting them on their feet.*

The Socialist industrialization of the great Soviet Union shows us the path we must travel. The Chinese people will consistently advance

along this path; they will exert their utmost effort and show the utmost perseverance in overcoming the difficulties standing in the way of the transformation of their country. The Chinese people are absolutely confident that, on the basis of planned construction carried on over a relatively long period, they will achieve the Socialist industrialization of their country and build up Socialism.

The teachings of Lenin and Stalin tell us that the development of Socialist industry is very closely connected with the Socialist transformation of agriculture. As Comrade Stalin has pointed out, Socialist construction cannot for any great length of time be based on two different foundations—the foundation of large-scale, Socialist industry and the foundation of an extremely scattered and backward small peasant economy. The general line of the Communist Party of China and the People's Government, therefore, lays it down that the gradual Socialist transformation of agriculture is one of the most important tasks. The Socialist transformation of agriculture means that the peasants, organized on a voluntary basis into mutual-aid teams and cooperatives, will gradually advance to collective Socialist farms. This is the fundamental path that Lenin and Stalin pointed out to us for the transformation of the small peasant economy into a Socialist economy.

Lenin regarded "cooperative societies in general, and agricultural cooperative societies in particular, as a means of transition—a means within the reach and understanding of the peasant millions—from small, individual farming to large-scale producing associations, or collective farms."*

The correctness of the theory of Lenin and Stalin on cooperation in agriculture was proved by the complete success of the collectivization of agriculture in the Soviet Union. There is no doubt that it will receive new historic confirmation during the course of the collectivization of agriculture in China.

The Socialist transformation of handicraft production is another of the important tasks of our country in the transitional period. Handicraft production has a long history of develop-

* J. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, English Edition, p. 399, Moscow.

* *History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks)*. Short Course, English Edition, pp. 402-403, Moscow.

ment in China. At the present time, thanks to the huge amount of its output and the great number of people engaged in it, handicraft industry still plays a considerable role in the economic life of the country. That is why in the transitional period it is necessary to carry out the Socialist transformation of handicraft production so that it, too, like agriculture, will take the path of mutual aid and cooperation and gradually move onto the track of a collective Socialist economy.

The Socialist transformation of industrial and commercial enterprises belonging to private capital is another of the tasks of the transitional period in our country, particularly during its first five-year plan. The first step will be to direct these enterprises onto the path of state capitalism and incorporate them into the framework of state planning. Lenin wrote in reference to state capitalism:

State capitalism is capitalism which we shall be able to restrict, the limits of which we shall be able to fix. This state capitalism is connected with the state, and the state is the workers; it is the advanced section of the workers; it is the vanguard. We are the state.*

Lenin's definition of state capitalism is of great importance to us as a guide. Under the conditions existing in our country, state capitalism is a form of capitalism which is under the guidance of the People's Government, under the supervision of the workers, which, in various forms according to different circumstances, is linked up with and cooperates with the Socialist sector of the economy.

Mass Study of Marxism-Leninism

The Chinese people fully understand from their own experience of revolutionary struggle that only Marxism-Leninism can show them the correct path to victory.

That is why a movement for the study of Marxist-Leninist theory has been widely

*The Political Report of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks), delivered by Lenin at the Eleventh Congress of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks). V. I. Lenin, *Selected Works*, English Edition, Vol. II, Part 2, p. 644, Moscow.

developed in the Communist Party of China, in various people's associations and in all the cities and villages of our country. The Chinese people's eagerness to master the theory of Marxism-Leninism is evidenced by the following figures: between October, 1949 and October, 1953, over 10 million volumes of the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin were published in the Chinese language. The first edition of the first volume of Stalin's *Complete Works* published in October, 1953 was issued in one million copies; the second volume will be published in an edition of 1,100,000 copies. The popular demand for the classics of Marxism-Leninism is continuously growing.

Today, when our country has begun its grand work of economic construction, we must not only master the theory of Marxism-Leninism but also learn from the Soviet Union's advanced experience in construction and its advanced science and technique. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has told us:

We are going to carry on our great national construction. The work facing us is hard and we do not have enough experience. So we must seriously study the advanced experience of the Soviet Union. Whether inside or outside the Communist Party, old or new cadres, technicians, intellectuals, workers or peasants, we must all learn wholeheartedly from the Soviet Union. We must learn not only the theories of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, but also the advanced science and technique of the Soviet Union. There must be a great nation-wide upsurge of learning from the Soviet Union to build our country.*

Marxism-Leninism leads the Chinese people from victory to victory in the gigantic task of economic construction which they have undertaken in their country. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, following the teachings of Lenin and Stalin and based on the experience of economic construction of the Soviet Union, the Chinese people are forging ahead with unflinching efforts towards the great goal of Socialism.

* Chairman Mao Tse-tung's address at the fourth session of the First National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

China's Victory on the Grain Front in 1953

Chang Kuang-chu

Deputy-Director of the General Office,
Ministry of Agriculture

IN 1953, the first year of China's first five-year plan, China's peasants produced even bigger crops for the country than in 1952, when they harvested record grain crops 16 per cent above the highest prewar (1937) level. This marks a tremendous victory of the people on the grain front in China's advance to Socialism.

This victory, like those gained on other production fronts, was won under the leadership and with the help of the Communist Party of China and the People's Government. Their constant aid encouraged the peasants to achieve new successes in production.

Today, following the land reform, increased agricultural production is a universal phenomenon on all farms. Working on their own land, the Chinese peasants show an unprecedented zeal in production.

Mutual Aid and Cooperation

The steady growth of the movement for mutual aid and cooperation in the villages is now one of the key factors in the increase of grain output. The Decision on Mutual Aid and Cooperation in Agricultural Production adopted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, continued to be actively carried out in all parts of the country during the past year. There has been a remarkable increase in the number of various types of mutual-aid teams and cooperative organiza-

tions. By the end of 1953, over 43 per cent of the country's peasant households have been organized to work collectively. The management and administration of these mutual-aid teams and cooperatives have also been greatly improved and their organization further strengthened. The organized peasants, thanks to their more efficient collective labour, rational utilization of draught animals, better farming implements and the land, were able to carry out their various agricultural activities on time, and raised bigger grain crops than the individual peasants.

In Northeast China, members of over 90 per cent of the agricultural producers' cooperatives have raised their grain output. The 409 agricultural producers' cooperatives in Jehol Province got an average yield of *kaoliang* and rice per *mou* 20 per cent higher than that of the local individual peasants. In the Chang Chih Administrative Region in Shansi Province, every member of the 984 agricultural producers' cooperatives received an average of 374.2 kilogrammes of grain, which was 95.5 kilogrammes more than the grain output of the average individual peasant in the region. Nearly 600 of these cooperatives increased production by 30-40 per cent compared with 1952. Some even achieved a 50-60 per cent increase. Similar facts from all other areas amply prove that the best guarantee for the continuous expansion of agricultural production is to lead the peasants to get organized, and gradually

bring about the Socialist transformation of agriculture through the organization of mutual-aid teams and cooperatives of all kinds.

Aid of Party and Government

At the start of the ploughing season last year, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China enjoined Party committees at all levels to regard the expansion and improvement of agricultural production as their main task in the countryside so as to help the village cadres and the peasants concentrate their efforts in production. In the last few years, the Party committees and government organizations at all levels have accumulated rich experience in this work. Many leading cadres went personally to the villages to help the peasants sum up their production experience and solve their problems. Such concrete, day-to-day leadership played a big role in increasing production.

In the past four years and more, the economic aid which the state has given to the peasants has substantially improved their conditions of production.

The People's Government has provided that no agricultural tax shall be paid on extra grain output produced over and above the normal output of the land on which the grain tax is assessed, and which results from the peasants' hard work and initiative, from technical improvements and larger capital investments. This naturally stimulates the peasants' interest in increasing production. Tiao Kuan, a peasant of Chiakou *Hsiang*, Yenshih County, in Honan Province, succeeded in increasing his wheat output by nearly 100 per cent, but he did not have to pay extra agricultural tax. Inspired by Tiao's example, many peasants in the same district purchased new draught animals, farming implements and fertilizers in order to expand production.

The state-owned trading companies have also given the peasants substantial help in raising the grain output. They have, according to the directives of the People's Government, on the one hand, raised the prices they pay for agricultural products, and on the other—thanks to the rapid development of China's industry—have been enabled to lower the prices of some industrial goods. This has raised the peasants' economic strength not only

in the process of production but also in that of exchange. In 1953, for instance, the purchasing power of the peasants in the Northeast showed an average increase of 20 per cent compared with 1952. These measures, too, have been a great incentive to the peasants in increasing production.

New Implements, New Methods

Between 1950 and 1953, China's peasants bought more than 50 million farming implements in addition to about 600,000 of the new and improved types including deep-tilling ploughs, sowing equipment, harrows, cultivators, etc. To help the peasants in their production, tractor stations and many semi-mechanized farm-tool stations were set up in 1953.

The state's supplies of chemical fertilizers and soya-bean cakes for the peasants are increasing every year. Over 3,600,000 tons of them were supplied in 1953.

The state bank extended **large loans to the** peasants to help them purchase new implements and fertilizers. In the first half of 1953, loans amounting to 9,597,600 million yuan were given to the peasants to help them expand agricultural production. In Shensi Province, many organized and individual peasants took advantage of these government loans to buy all that they needed in the way of fertilizers, seeds, draught animals, farming implements, insecticide and sprayers. This was one of the important factors in increasing Shensi Province's 1953 grain output by nearly 30 per cent as compared with 1952.

To further develop technical and instructional services to the peasants, the People's Government has established over 4,000 agricultural technical demonstration stations in various areas. These stations, in cooperation with other government organizations for improving farming technique, are making energetic efforts to discover the key factors for increasing production. They collect and analyse the peasants' experiences in raising bumper harvests; they apply the advanced methods of agricultural science in relation to local natural conditions and the special characteristics of different crops, and convey their findings to the masses.

The peasants are casting off the old, backward methods of cultivation. The movement

to use improved farming techniques is growing daily. They have extensively adopted such advanced methods as deep-ploughing, close planting, the improved use of fertilizers and selected, high-grade seeds. Here are just a few of innumerable examples: In the Laiyang Administrative Region, Shantung Province, 25 per cent of the wheat fields were ploughed one to two inches deeper; close planting was practised on over 400,000 *mou* of wheat fields in Hopei Province; more fertilizers were used on over half of the wheat fields in Shensi Province; better quality rice seeds were used on over six million *mou* of land in Hupeh Province. Such technical improvements have given excellent results in increased production and this has helped popularise the new farming techniques among the peasants.

Water Conservancy Aids

The great water conservancy works built during the last few years have also shown their effects in increased grain production. The harnessing of China's main rivers has not only prevented or lessened the menace of floods but also assisted the development of irrigation. The famous Chingkiang flood detention basin on the middle reaches of the Yangtze River and the Huai River project have played a big role in increasing grain production in those areas.

Huaian County is situated at the junction of the Grand Canal and the new North Kiangsu Irrigation Canal (which was completed in the summer of 1952 as part of the Huai River project). It reaped a record harvest in 1953, and the yields of almost all crops there showed increases of over 10-20 per cent. Good crops were harvested in some parts of the county where the peasants, owing to disastrous floods, had previously suffered crop failures in nine years out of ten. The main reason for this record harvest was undoubtedly the fact that, following the excavation of the North Kiangsu Irrigation Canal and its various conducive channels, the peasants of Huaian County cut further auxiliary channels and provided other facilities to supplement the benefits brought by the Canal. This is only one example of how, during the last few years, the construction by the peasants of local, small-scale irrigation projects, including new ditches, wells and ponds,

has extended the irrigated acreage to over 3,400,000 hectares. This has been a vital factor in increasing grain production in 1953.

Victory Over Natural Calamities

It is still unavoidable that natural calamities should still occur in China with its vast area and very varied natural conditions. In fact, the magnificent successes in agricultural production in 1953 were achieved in the face of natural calamities which, in some parts of China, were the worst since liberation. But with the foregoing measures adopted by the People's Government the peasants have greatly increased their strength to combat natural calamities. As a result, the damage caused by natural calamities was greatly reduced in the areas stricken last year.

In addition to the constant and long-term measures against natural disasters such as large-scale water conservancy works, improved methods of pest control and quarantine, seed selection and agro-technical methods to resist drought or frost, etc., many new measures were taken in 1953.

The government further improved meteorological work. Timely warnings played an important role in reducing damage from floods and typhoons. The government has also established 26 anti-locust stations in afflicted areas, trained over 50,000 reconnaissance and anti-locust workers and supplied large quantities of insecticide and sprayers; as a result of these measures, the major portion of the locusts were killed in their early stages. When the spread of millet army worms threatened to become a menace in Yunnan Province, the government immediately dispatched large quantities of insecticide by air and the spread of the pest was halted.

In Hupeh Province, a 10 per cent increase of the rice output was achieved owing to the extensive adoption of drought-resisting measures such as storing and preservation of water, better use of water and successful planting and protection of rice saplings under drought conditions.

Local Party branches and people's governments in all areas that were hit by natural calamities gave top priority to the work of crop-saving and relief. Leading cadres investigated conditions on the spot and inquired

into the needs of the masses so as to help them overcome their difficulties. When frost attacked crops in Anhwei and Honan Provinces last spring, the local Party branches and people's governments promptly issued orders for relief work and dispatched a large number of cadres to the villages to help organize campaigns to combat frost. As a result, the estimated loss of crops was reduced by 20 per cent. When drought hit Chekiang Province last summer, over 8,000 government workers instantly went to the countryside to help the peasants develop new water sources. The anti-drought measures taken were so successful that the province's 1953 harvest equalled the bumper harvest of 1952. It is interesting to recall that a far less serious drought occurred in the same province in 1934, and the crop yield dropped 1,800 million kilogrammes. The facts in 1953 prove that the peasants of New China can raise agricultural production even under conditions of serious natural calamities

that in the past would normally have led to widespread distress.

The tremendous victory scored by New China on the grain front in 1953 has greatly strengthened the country's economic position; it has further improved the peasants' livelihood. The 1953 grain crop met all normal demands including the demand for food grains of the urban centres, the industrial and mining areas and districts growing industrial crops. The rural market for manufactured goods also expanded.

The harvest of 1953 convincingly showed the decisive increase in China's agricultural productivity. It has already far exceeded the level of the old semi-feudal and semi-colonial China. In line with the gradual transition to Socialism on the basis of Socialist industrialization and the Socialist transformation of agriculture, China's agricultural productivity will be further raised and its grain output will be further increased.

A Great Day

Report From Anshan, the Steel City

Our Correspondent

ON December 26, 1953, an impressive and joyous ceremony was held at Anshan, China's great steel centre, to celebrate the first big victory the Chinese people have achieved in the course of the Socialist industrialization of their country—the start of operations at the three new projects of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company: the mechanized automatic seamless steel tubing mill, the mechanized automatic heavy rolling mill, both the first of their kinds in China, and the No. 7 automatic blast furnace.

These three giants of modern heavy industry are all equipped with the latest types of machines capable of high rates of production. The annual amount of steel products produced by the heavy rolling mill, for instance, is enough to build dozens of mills as big as the rolling mill itself. It is also able to supply much of the materials needed for the development of railway transport under the first five-year plan. The seamless steel tubing mill will supply tubes of various sizes needed in the manufacturing of locomotives, motor vehicles and

tractors as well as for the petroleum, electrical power, chemical and other industries. The No. 7 blast furnace will supply the metal needed by the seamless tubing mill and the heavy rolling mill. The combined potential of these three projects will be an enormous contribution to the realization of the first five-year plan.

Joy and Pride

Anshan was gaily decorated on this memorable day. Large portraits of Chairman Mao Tse-tung were proudly displayed everywhere. The five-star national flag flew from every building. Thousands of banners and slogans hailed the completion of the three projects. The faces of the people, especially the workers, reflected their joy and pride in this victory—and their pride in their accomplishment was fully justified.

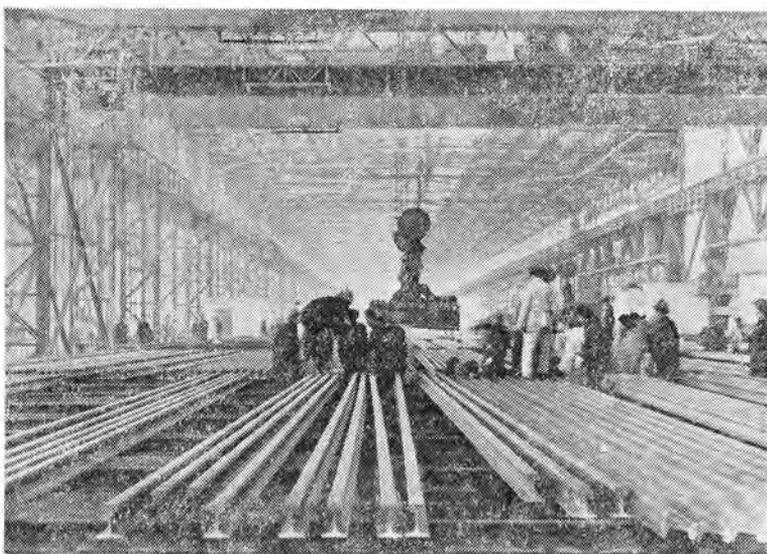
Every mill and workshop of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company was specially decorated for the occasion. The No. 7 blast furnace, gay with banners, looked more imposing and gigantic than ever. Even the dollies to transport the molten iron were festooned with multi-coloured flowers. The glass windows of the heavy rolling mill were cleaned and shone like crystal. The walls of workshops, clubs and dining halls were decorated with huge posters bearing the caption: "Inch by inch and foot

by foot, we are building Socialism with our hands!"

The good news spread all over Anshan, on the eve of the great day, that Vice-Chairman Kao Kang of the Central People's Government and the Soviet Government Delegation headed by I. F. Tevosyan, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, which came to China on the invitation of our government, would participate in the celebrations.

Before dawn on December 26, when the sky was still dotted with stars, Anshan was already astir. Mothers hastily prepared hearty breakfasts for their children. Young girls tied butterfly bows of bright ribbons on their plaits. Workers and employees put on their best holiday wear.

It was a great day. Veteran worker Meng Tai, Anshan's noted labour hero, pinned his many medals carefully on his coat. This was a supremely proud and happy day for him. When the Japanese imperialists were driven from Anshan in 1945, they had the effrontery to declare that, without Japanese engineers, there could be no production in the Anshan iron and steel works. "The Chinese," they said, "have no technical experience. The blast furnace will produce not iron but *kao-liang* stalks!" Four years later, the Anshan workers hurled such slanders back in the teeth



The new heavy rolling mill produces its first batch of heavy steel rails



Kao Kang, Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government (first from left in foreground), and **I. F. Tevosyan, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.** (2nd from left in foreground), inspect products of the automatic seamless steel tubing mill after the official commissioning of the three big projects at Anshan

of the imperialists. They had already far surpassed the production records of the works when they were under the control of the Japanese invaders.

The Inauguration Ceremony

In front of the People's Theatre of Anshan where the ceremony was held, against a crimson satin background stood a giant model in gold-foil of the souvenir emblem struck to commemorate the inauguration of the three projects. Flanking the emblem were two slogans written in white on a red base: "Forward triumphantly under the leadership of Chairman Mao! Struggle for the Socialist industrialization of our motherland!" This key-noted the inauguration ceremony of these plants which have so great an historic significance for the new China.

Those who participated in the ceremony included the honoured guests from Moscow, the representative of Chairman Mao, model workers and the Soviet specialists who had given such selfless help to the Chinese people during the construction of these projects.

The reading of Chairman Mao's letter of congratulation to the workers of Anshan was heard with special elation and pride. He wrote:

The completion of the construction and the beginning of production of the Anshan seamless tubing mill, the Anshan heavy rolling mill and the Anshan No. 7 blast furnace are great events in the development of the heavy industry of our country in 1953. I send my warm greetings and profound thanks to all the staff and workers who have taken part in these three projects, all the staff and workers of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company and all the Soviet comrades who have helped in the Anshan construction work. The people of our country are now united to strive for the realization of the Socialist industrialization of our country; your heroic labour is a tremendous contribution to this purpose...

Vice-Chairman Kao Kang, representing the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the Central People's Government and Chairman Mao, brought warm greetings at the start of production at the three projects and heartfelt thanks to all those who participated in the construction work. He paid high tribute to the great help rendered by the Soviet Government. The beginning of production at the three projects, he said, "establishes a strong advance position for our struggle for yet bigger victories on our future construction fronts . . . It means a step forward in the friendly cooperation between the Chinese and Soviet peoples."

The appearance of I. F. Tevosyan on the platform again aroused thunderous applause. On behalf of the Soviet people and Government,

he warmly congratulated all those who participated in the construction of the projects. He hailed the success of the Chinese people in their great industrial undertaking. He said:

From their own experience, the Soviet people know that the realization of national industrialization and the building up of a powerful metallurgical industry is fraught with immense difficulties. But they also know that, when the working people are not working for the capitalists or foreign imperialists, but for themselves, for the people's welfare and for their motherland, then they prove to have miraculous strength and resourcefulness. This has been clearly borne out by the path traversed by the Chinese people during the four years since the founding of the Chinese People's Republic.... The achievements of the Chinese people made in the course of their economic construction gives encouragement to the people of the colonies and dependent countries and inspires them to oppose and struggle against the foreign imperialists, who, for hundreds of years, have oppressed the Asian peoples, robbed them of their human rights, enslaved them and made them victims of starvation.

I. F. Tevosyan concluded his speech amid fresh bursts of applause.

Workers and employees at the meeting unanimously resolved to present the first seamless tube and rail produced by the new plants to Chairman Mao, great leader of China, and to G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., respectively.

As the gifts were presented to the representatives of the Central People's Government and the Soviet Government, the meeting hall resounded with enthusiastic and prolonged applause amid cheers of "Long live our great leader, Chairman Mao!" and "Long live the great, everlasting and unbreakable friendship between China and the Soviet Union!"

At two o'clock in the afternoon, in the presence of Anshan's workers and employees, Vice-Chairman Kao Kang cut the red ribbon to mark the opening of the No. 7 blast furnace. The ceremony was repeated at the heavy rolling mill and the seamless tubing mill. An old cadre, one who had personally taken a leading part in the reconstruction of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, spoke at this ceremony:

Marching forward from one victory to another under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people are daily con-

solidating their strength. Not long ago we defeated both the foreign and domestic enemies, and now we have won a brilliant battle on the industrial front!

A Dream Fulfilled

Li Shou-chen, an old worker in the heavy rolling mill who suffered untold hardships during the puppet "Manchoukuo" days, lingered around the rolling machine. A smile which spoke volumes lit up his face as he saw the dream of the workers of the old heavy rolling mill materialized—the brand new automatic mill.

Wang Chia-chen, a woman worker of the seamless tubing mill, described to her friends with warm appreciation the training which she had received under the personal direction of the Soviet experts.

Li Feng-en, model worker of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, told me how, when one year ago he attended the World Peace Congress in Vienna, an old Viennese woman, with tears of joy, gave him a peace dove souvenir badge and said: "I hope the Chinese people will make yet greater achievements in their work of safeguarding world peace." "Today's meeting," Li Feng-en added, "proves that the Chinese people are indeed helping to realize the wish of all the peace-loving peoples of the world!"

In the evening Anshan continued its happy celebrations. Scores of parties were held in which white-haired old men, young girls, and the family folk of the workers made merry. The whole town echoed with music and laughter. Mei Lan-fang, the famous Peking opera actor, came to Anshan to give the workers a special performance. The builders of Anshan received all kinds of gifts. Girl students sent them beautiful embroidered handkerchiefs. Young Pioneers gave their most treasured gifts to their "worker-uncles" to express their thanks for the contributions they have made for the building of a brighter and happier future for the younger generation.

Inspired by this great victory on the industrial front, the entire body of workers and working people of Anshan have determined to throw all their strength into the new tasks of reinforcing the nation's industrial power entrusted to them by the Communist Party and the People's Government.

Northwest Survey

**This vast and rich area is becoming
one of China's main industrial bases**

Chien Feng

Our Special Correspondent

CHINA'S vast and rich Northwest will play an exceptionally important part in the great task which the Chinese people are undertaking to transform their country from a backward agricultural country into an advanced industrial state. In the future, this region will become an industrial base even larger than the Northeast is at present. All necessary preparations for the industrialization of the Northwest are now under way.

The Northwest is the biggest among China's six greater administrative areas. It embraces the five provinces of Shensi, Kansu, Ningsia, Chinghai and Sinkiang, and covers an area of 3,350,000 square kilometres, or over one-third of China's entire territory.

This vast region is still thinly peopled. With only 32 million inhabitants, it has an average population density of less than ten persons per square kilometre. Its inhabitants include 19 fraternal nationalities: Hans, Uighurs, Huis, Kazakhs, Mongolians, Uzbeks, etc.

Mountains and Plains

The whole region is a high plateau with a west-east slope. Its mountain ranges run from west to east. In the north are the Altai Mountains; in the west, the Tienshan Mountains; in the south, the Kunlun Mountains; in the east, the Chinling Mountains and the Nanshan Mountains. Some of the world's highest peaks rise in this region. The Muztagh in the Kunlun Mountains, for example, is 7,723 metres high. This region also has the lowest basin in the world, the Turfan Depression to the east of the

Tienshan Mountains. Its floor lies 283 metres below sea level.

The widest basin in the Northwest—the Tarim Basin with an area of more than 900,000 square kilometres—is situated to the south of the Tienshan Mountains. At its centre is the Takla Makan Desert. Between the Kunlun Mountains and the Altyn Mountains, there is another big basin, the Tsaidam Swamps. The northern regions of the Northwest are located on the western rim of the Gobi Desert.

There are also vast stretches of plains in the Northwest: the Dzungaria Plain in Sinkiang, the Hosi Corridor in western Kansu, the Yellow River Bend area in Ningsia and the Wei River Valley in Shensi. Parts of these plains are watered by irrigation systems and are, therefore, cultivable. They have many beauty spots with green hills and turquoise-blue streams.

The climate of the Northwest as a whole is warmer than that of China's Northeast. The average temperature in Tihua, Sinkiang Province, in January is about 20 degrees below zero. Around Lanchow, the rivers are not frozen even in December.

Generally speaking, however, the Northwest lacks rainfall, especially in its western parts. The average yearly rainfall is only 100-200 millimetres. However, the snow accumulated on the mountains makes up for this lack of rainfall. The snow melts in the spring, summer and autumn when the land needs to be watered. The warmer the weather, the more water the land gets. The local peasants have a saying: "In the east, they

owe their life to rain; we owe our life to sunshine." The whole vast expanse of cultivated land to the west of Lanchow, especially on the two slopes of the Chilien Mountain range on the Sinkiang-Kansu-Chinghai border, is irrigated by the melting snows.

Flying over Sinkiang, we can get glimpses of many lush valleys irrigated by the melted snow from the mountains. Here, thick forests embrace the villages and hamlets; the fields are close set with networks of ditches, and they look much the same as the picturesque villages in Kiangsu and Chekiang Provinces. Since ancient times, many poets have sung the beauties of these spots in verse.

The Yellow River, China's second longest, has its source on the slopes of the Yabalatah-tsai Mountain in Chinghai Province and flows for over two-thirds of its length, 3,343 kilometres, through the Northwest. It was used for irrigation in the most distant past. Many ancient irrigation works were built by our forefathers along the river. The irrigation system in the agricultural areas of Ningsia Province, for instance, was first developed in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). Irrigation works built on a large scale in the Wei River Valley, one of the famous cotton areas in China, are still more ancient, dating as far back as the time of Tsin Shih Huang Ti (221-210 B.C.).

In addition to agriculture, animal husbandry also plays a big part in the Northwest's economy. The vast steppes and highlands of the region provide favourable conditions for stock-raising.

The administrative centre of the Northwest is Sian, Shensi Province. This was the capital of no less than eleven dynasties of China over a period of more than 970 years. The Tang Dynasty, about a thousand years ago, was the last one to have its capital here. At that time, it was a big city with a population of a million and covered an area double that of the Sian of today.

A Past of Poverty Amid Plenty

The economic and cultural growth of the Northwest, however, was stunted by the exploitation and oppression of its people under the reactionary rulers. For many, many years past, darkness and bitter poverty reigned in

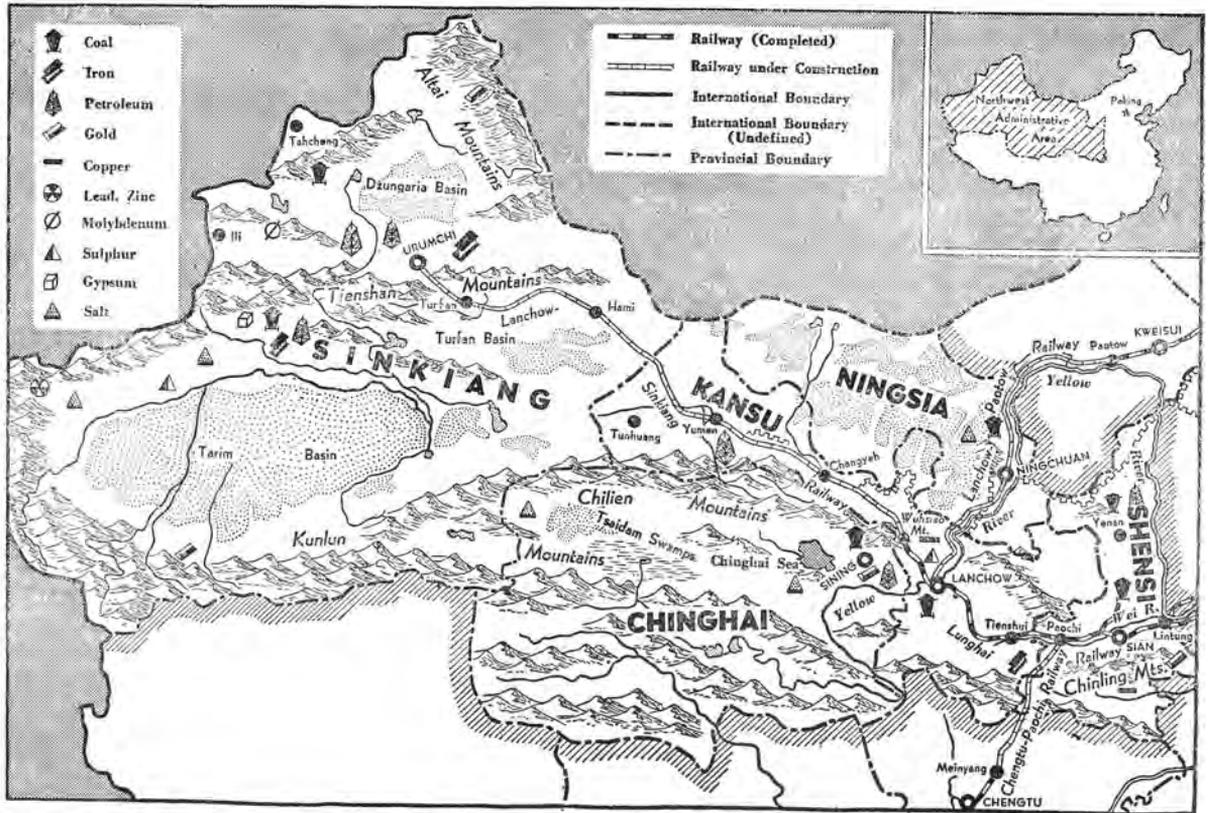
this part of the land where a clever and industrious people lived amid rich but untapped natural resources.

When the Northwest was finally and completely liberated in 1949, less than 3 per cent of the total arable area was being cultivated, and grain output in this region amounted to only 5 per cent of the total production in China. The Northwest's industrial output was even farther behind. It made up only about 2 per cent of the total value of the nation's industrial production. The bulk of the cotton produced in central Shensi had to be transported to cotton mills in the coastal cities over 1,000 kilometres away. The only railway serving the Northwest then was the Lunghai Railway, which was planned to run from Lanchow, Kansu Province, to Lienyun Harbour in Kiangsu Province. Though construction of the eastern section of this line started in 1909, it reached only Tienshui instead of Lanchow in 1949. Thus, for a long time, a great section of this railway remained as dotted lines on the map. At that time, the total length of highways in the Northwest accounted for less than 10 per cent of the total highway mileage in the whole country; and these were served by only 5 per cent of the nation's motor transport. In most districts, camels and donkeys were the only means of transport.

In the past, the reactionary rulers of China held the view that the Northwest should remain a pastoral area and that the people of the various nationalities there had no need of the benefits of modern civilization. The rapacious Kuomintang rulers extorted from the people fine skins and furs, large quantities of wool and many other valuable native products, but utterly neglected the economic development of the area. Once in a while, they talked about schemes of "construction" and "development" of the Northwest, but these merely served as pretexts for extorting more taxes from the people or contracting new loans with foreign countries. The U.S., like other imperialist powers, also plundered the area. They carried off even its cultural riches, such as many fragments of the famed murals in the ancient grottoes at Tunhuang, Kansu Province.

Great Revolutionary Base

The people of the Northwest played an important part in the liberation struggles against



Sketch map of China's Northwest Administrative Area

the Manchu Dynasty, against foreign aggressors and against the Kuomintang reactionary rulers. But the most glorious pages of the history of their revolutionary struggles are inseparably connected with the activities of the Chinese Communist Party.

The famous Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region grew up here in the Northwest. It was one of the earliest revolutionary bases formed by the people under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party for armed resistance to the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang. It was further strengthened when the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army successfully completed its 25,000 li Long March in 1935 and arrived in this region. The centre of this revolutionary base was then established at the city of Yenan, in northern Shensi; Yenan became the pride of the entire Chinese people. For a long time it served as the lighthouse pointing the way of advance for the Chinese people. It was from here that the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and their great leader and teacher, Mao Tse-tung,

led the Chinese people in waging the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression and the War of Liberation. Yenan will forever remain an inexhaustible source of inspiration for the Chinese people.

The people of the many nationalities in the Northwest also had a long history of revolutionary activity. During the past hundred years, for instance, the people of Sinkiang Province alone organized over 400 revolutionary uprisings. In the 1944 uprising against the reactionary Kuomintang rule, the people's forces not only repulsed the attack of the Kuomintang troops but liberated many cities including Ili, Ashan and Tacheng. They also established some democratic areas which existed up to the time when the Chinese People's Liberation Army freed the whole of Sinkiang Province.

Post-Liberation Achievements

The victory of the people's revolution has completely changed the picture of the Northwest. It has brought new life and vitality to this vast area. Huge oil derricks are operating

at the foot of the Tianshan Mountains. The badly neglected Yumen Oil Field has been restored and is developing at a rapid rate. When the Tienshui-Lanchow Railway was opened to traffic, the people of Lanchow saw trains for the first time in their lives. Newly-built highways have been extended to the areas inhabited by national minorities. Traffic on them is brisk. The development of civil aviation has also tremendously reduced the time for travel to and from Northwest China. Many new automatic power stations have been built. Since the liberation the number of cotton spindles in the Northwest has risen to double that of pre-liberation days. Many state farms and ranches have also been established.

The people of the Northwest have actively participated in the national construction for 1953, the first year of the first five-year plan. Only about one to two per cent of the whole area had been surveyed by geological workers before liberation. Now, geological prospecting teams are combing the Northwest. The sound of motors can be heard among the towering mountains and the cliffs as well as on the vast grasslands. Drills are going day and night. During the ten years before liberation, the reactionary Kuomintang government drilled a total depth of only 27,000 metres. In 1953 alone, the total depth drilled was more than four times this figure. Large deposits of metals,

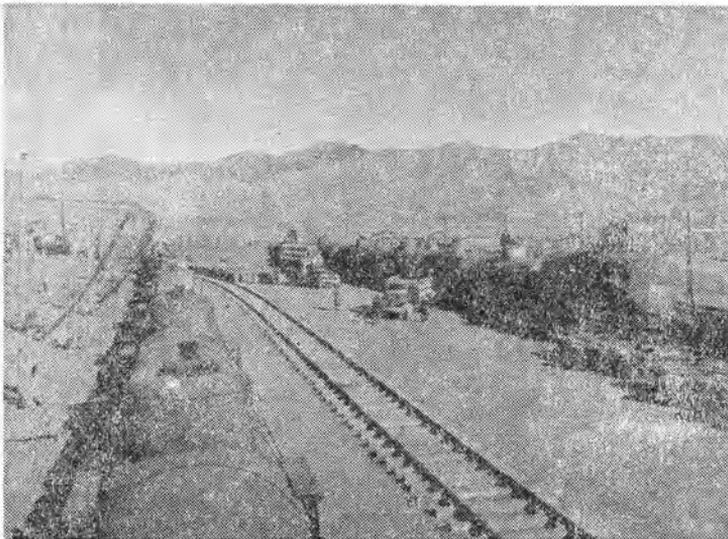
petroleum, coal and other minerals have been discovered. The local inhabitants have given great help to the People's Government in this work. From February to August, 1953, in Shensi and Kansu Provinces alone the people reported the whereabouts of 140 deposits of minerals, and of these 90 were deposits of metals.

According to American "experts," China's oil deposits were "definitely" poor, but the results of prospecting to date have completely exposed this lie. Many big oil basins have been discovered, and there is a great possibility that the Northwest will become the "Baku" of China. It was also said that China was deficient in copper, but big copper reserves have been located in the Northwest; some deposits have a copper content as high as 15 per cent.

There are big coal fields in each of the Northwestern provinces. Coal fields already located in the central part of Shensi Province cover an area of more than 600 square kilometres with reserves estimated at over 1,000 million tons. There are extensive coal fields in Sinkiang Province and some have over 40 seams. Certain seams reach a thickness of more than 30 metres. Iron ore and ores of rare metals are also continuously being discovered in the Northwest. The geological formations of Chinghai Province were generally regarded as being relatively new, so the area was said to be poor in mineral deposits. But actually its underground resources have proved to be very considerable.

Transport and Power Developments

Surveys have shown that the Yellow River has tremendous potentialities for the generation of power. The harnessing of this power in the river's gorges in the Northwest will produce more than five times as much electricity as all the existing generating equipment in China. The development of the Yellow River for navigation and irrigation will be undertaken. When the basic work of harnessing the river is completed, 200-ton vessels will be able to sail from Pohai Bay up to Lanchow.



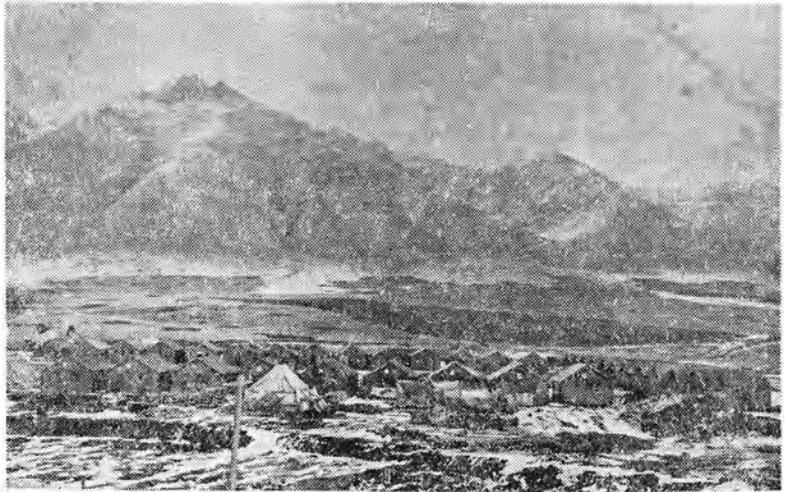
Petroleum being transported to the oil refinery along the first completed section of the Lanchow-Sinkiang Railway

Railways are also being built in the Northwest on a large scale. Three trunk lines are now under construction: one extends from Lanchow, Kansu Province, to the west to Sinkiang Province; one connects Paochi, Shensi Province, with Chengtu, Szechuan Province; and another one runs from Lanchow through Ningsia Province to Paotow, Suiyuan Province, where it joins the Peking-Paotow Railway. A 180-kilometre section of the Lanchow-Sinkiang Railway has already been opened to traffic, and over 20,000 workers are now building the railway day and night in the Wuhsiao Mountain area, 3,000

metres above sea level. The air route of the Sino-Soviet Civil Aviation Company, connecting Peking and Alma Ata of the Soviet Union through the Northwest, is of great significance to the development of the area.

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

In order to support large-scale industrial construction, active preparations are being made to further expand the agriculture and animal husbandry of the Northwest. It is estimated that more than 800 million *mou* of uncultivated land can be reclaimed in the Northwest and more than 10 million *mou* of irrigated land can be added to cultivation. In the northern part of Sinkiang Province, where cotton has never been planted before, large tracts of land yielded an abundant cotton harvest in 1952. Some areas yielded more than 500 kilogrammes of cotton per *mou*. Many districts whose crops have suffered in the past from sandstorms have learnt how to combat such natural calamities and have thus been able to increase their crop yields. The rapid development of the movement for mutual aid and cooperation is also helping to raise agricultural production. Half of the nation's sheep are in the Northwest, where the vast expanse of natural pastures provides very favourable conditions for a rapid expansion of sheep-raising.



The construction of the Lanchow-Sinkiang Railway goes on throughout the winter. These workers' dormitories at the construction site on Wuhsiao Mountain, 3,000 m. above sea level, northwest of Lanchow, are well built and heated against the cold

Many areas are now undertaking experiments to improve their herds, and there is a steady increase in the number of veterinary stations and livestock-breeding stations.

* * *

Friendly relations of mutual trust and unity have been established among the people of the various nationalities inhabiting the Northwest. The income they received from the selling of their own products—grain and wool—have been increased, and daily necessities produced in the cities have become cheaper. Their life is steadily improving. They all understand from their own day-to-day experience that the changes stem from the correct leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Communist Party and the People's Government.

When the natural resources in the Northwest are fully exploited, numerous factories established and mining districts developed all over this region, agriculture becomes mechanized and collectivized, animal husbandry is further developed, and schools, hospitals, clubs and houses for the labouring people in the cities and countryside are built on a large scale, the life of the people in this area will be a hundred times richer and happier.

Shanghai in the First Year of The First Five-Year Plan

Chang Ching

FOR the past hundred years, Shanghai has been China's largest industrial and commercial centre. But until its liberation in 1949, this city of 6 million people was the main stronghold of the foreign imperialists and their Chinese agents—the bureaucratic capitalists. A great part of the foreign industrial and commercial enterprises and big banks in China were concentrated in Shanghai, which was garrisoned by the troops and police of the imperialist powers. It was through Shanghai, the main centre of China's foreign trade, that the foreign imperialists drained the country of its wealth and flooded the domestic market with dumped imports. By utilizing Shanghai to carry on their colonial plunder of the whole of the country, the foreign imperialists inflicted severe damage on the Chinese national economy and obstructed its independent development.

Shanghai's role in the economic life of the country has radically changed with the liberation. It has become one of the most important industrial centres which are playing a leading role in China's advance to Socialist industrialization, and particularly in the development of the machine-building industry—the foundation of economic independence. In 1953, the first year of China's first five-year plan, the workers of Shanghai made outstanding contributions to the nation's economic construction by supplying machinery and building materials to many newly constructed and renovated enterprises.

Supplier of Industrial Equipment

Shanghai is one of the main industrial areas supplying the necessary equipment for the Anshan Iron and Steel Company's works in the

Northeast—China's biggest iron and steel centre. Hundreds of factories in Shanghai have been producing complex machines and various components for Anshan. Much of the equipment installed in the three newly commissioned giant projects of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company—the seamless steel tubing mill, the heavy rolling mill and the No. 7 automatic blast furnace—come from Shanghai.

Shanghai's factories are supplying a remarkable variety of equipment for new construction projects throughout China. Most of it was never before produced domestically. Electrically operated cranes lifting 100 tons are only one of the many new machines produced by Shanghai works. The state-owned iron and steel works in Chungking are using these Shanghai-made cranes. China's mining and metallurgical industries are using Shanghai-made crushers, ore-dressing machines and vacuum filtering machines. Power stations are receiving Shanghai steam turbine generators of 5,000 to 6,000 kw. capacity, each of which can supply lighting for a city of a quarter of a million people. Shanghai is also producing high-voltage transformers for power stations, Soviet-type planers, and milling machines, etc. A 9-metre planer was recently produced which weighs 56 tons and has 6,200 parts. Shipyards and construction jobs get direct-current electrical welding apparatus of high efficiency from Shanghai. Laboratories get precision instruments including balances with electric indicators accurate to 1/10,000 of a gramme. Automatically operated plants are using Shanghai-made control switches.

Shanghai's iron and steel and machine-building industries have also played a very



A work-team of the Chekiang Agricultural Research Institute helping peasants in Kashing County to decide when to harvest their fine crop



After reaping a rich harvest of early rice, peasants in Haicheng County, Fukien Province, take timely irrigation measures to secure another rich crop of late rice



Many peasants visit the Shuangchiao Mechanized State Farm near Peking to see the work of its combine-harvester

China's 1953 Grain Crop

Peasants in Kashing County, Chekiang Province, selling their grain to the State Grain Company





PAINTING

BY

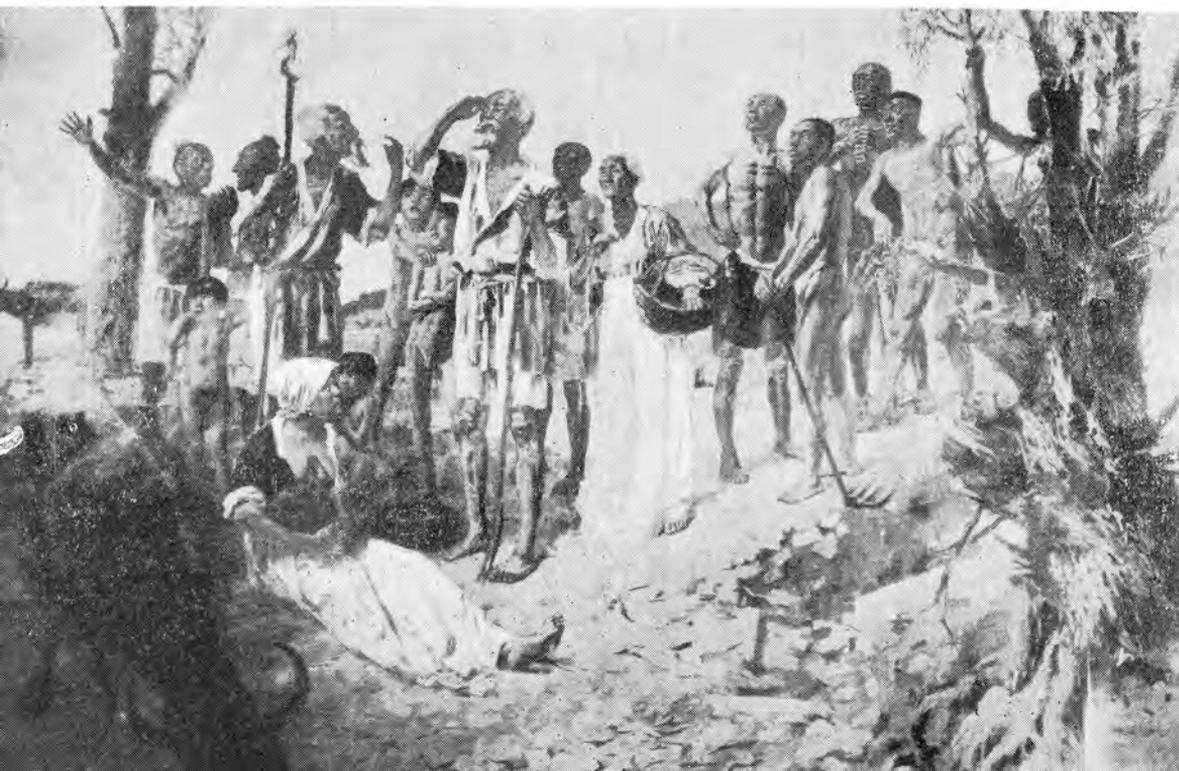
HSU PEI-HUN

(Ju Pe-on)

On Omei Mountain.
Chinese ink. (1935)

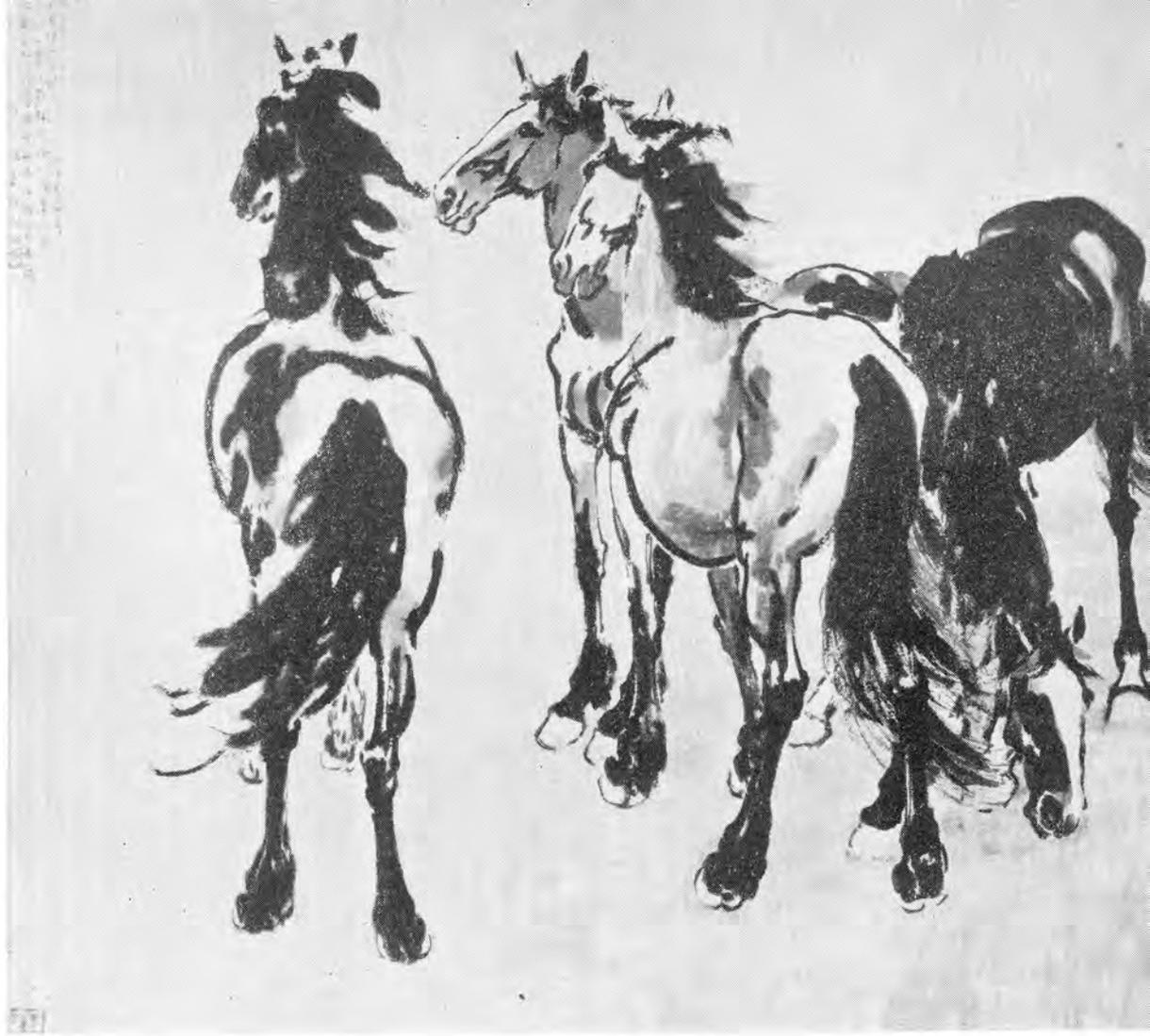
Four
ink. 12

Waiting for the Eman-
cipator. Oil painting.
324 x 235 cm. (1930-1933)



Crowing in the
Storm. Chinese
ink and colour
76.5 x 132 cm
(1937)

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Horses. Chinese
1 x 109 cm. (1940)



A Morning Song. Chinese ink and colour.
98.5 x 82 cm. (1936)



Shanghai Industry Supports National Construction

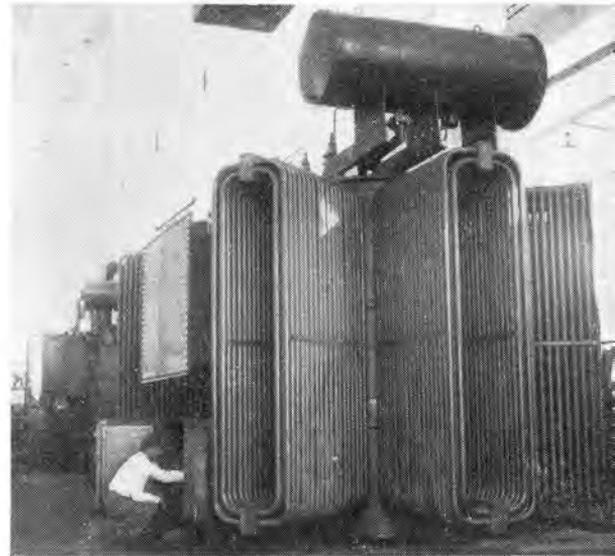
Workers of the Shanghai No. 1 State-owned Cotton Mill giving a warm send-off to their colleagues who went late last year with a machine-installing team to help build the Hsiangtan Cotton Mill in Hunan Province



Loading Shanghai's industrial products on an air-liner bound for Ili, Sinkiang Province, on the Northwest border



10,000 KVA transformers with onroad tap changers, a new product of the Shanghai State-owned Electrical Machinery Works



Shanghai textiles have a nation-wide market. A department of the up-to-date Shanghai No. 2 State-owned Cotton Mill



Short-wave medical apparatus, mass produced by the Shanghai State-owned Medical Precision Machinery Works

important role in supplying the necessary equipment for the great water conservancy projects of New China. They have provided steel sluice gates weighing 3,000 tons apiece for the new reservoirs, navigation locks and dams along the Huai River and for the Kuanting Reservoir northwest of Peking. The high quality of these machines and their punctual delivery have facilitated the successful completion of these projects, which are of great significance for agricultural development and the harnessing of rivers whose destructive floods have been a menace to the people for centuries past.

Some 2,000 kilometres north of Shanghai, in the Greater and Lesser Khingan Mountains, lie some of the richest forest areas in China. The timber industry there is served by hundreds of kilometres of narrow-gauge railways, the rails of which are Shanghai-made.

Shanghai is also a producer of textile machinery. The newly constructed cotton textile mills in Chengchow, Honan Province, and Hantan, Hopei Province, as well as other mills commissioned in 1953 in the North China cotton belt, are equipped with machines built in Shanghai.

The electric wire and cables supplied by Shanghai in 1953 could be wound twice around the Equator. High-tension cables made in the Shanghai Electric Wire Plant will be used to establish a power-grid in the Yangtze River delta. The same plant made the wire for the first long-distance telephone line running 2,200 kilometres between Chungking in Szechuan Province and Urumchi (Tihua) in Sinkiang Province.

In the past four years, many new machine-building plants have been constructed and old ones expanded in various parts of China. A considerable portion of them is located in Shanghai. Since liberation, Shanghai's heavy industry has made impressive advances. The machine-building, electrical engineering, iron and steel, and chemical industries in Shanghai overfulfilled their plans for 1953 by an average of 11 per cent. In the first seven months of the year, the output of steel products by state-owned and joint state and private enterprises in Shanghai was 106 per cent above the output of the corresponding period

in 1952. The corresponding increase in the manufacture of generators was 139 per cent.

Light Industry Centre

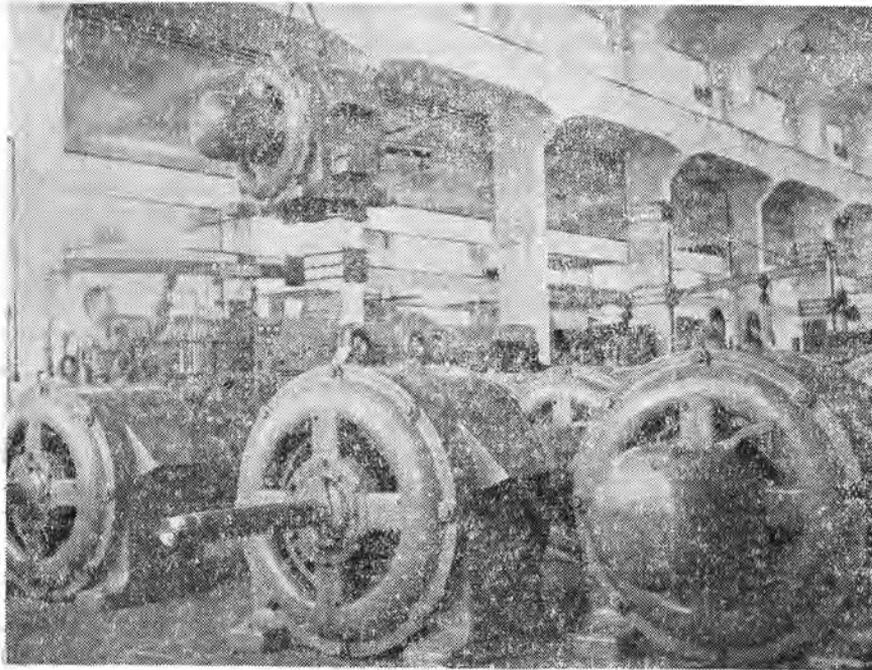
Shanghai is also China's biggest light industrial centre. Shanghai's light industries last year produced large quantities of articles of daily use to meet the constantly increasing needs of the people in town and countryside. Shanghai has 39 per cent of the total number of spindles in the country. Its textile products include cotton, silk and woollen fabrics. Its rubber goods, processed foods, medicines, stationery supplies and other daily necessities find ready sale in the cities, rural areas and regions inhabited by national minorities. A great portion of the goods sold in the state-trading companies and cooperatives throughout the country are of Shanghai origin. To meet the new demands of the masses, industrial enterprises in Shanghai are not only expanding their production of articles of daily use but also continuously improving the quality of their output.

Nineteen state-owned spinning mills in Shanghai completed their 1953 production plans 8 or 9 days ahead of schedule and turned over to the state a profit which is one-third greater than that in 1952. Four state printing and dyeing mills fulfilled their production plans 16 days in advance. From January to July, 1953, Shanghai produced 17 per cent more cotton cloth than in the same period of 1952. The cotton cloth made in Shanghai in 1953 was sufficient to provide complete suits of clothing for 330 million persons.

The ever-increasing expansion of Shanghai's fountain pen industry is an index of the growing cultural requirements of the people. Nearly 100 brands of pens are manufactured by state and private enterprises in the city. They are not only sold widely on the domestic market but are exported abroad—to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, where they are very popular. In 1953, Shanghai produced 13 million fountain pens.

Production Raised, Costs Cut

In response to the call of the Central People's Government to increase production and practise economy, workers in Shanghai



Such electric motors are one of Shanghai's main contributions to economic construction in many parts of the country

have made tremendous achievements. Many factories in this city overfulfilled their 1953 production plans. Based on preliminary statistics, the total value of production in 73 of Shanghai's light industrial plants surpassed the 1953 production plans, on the average, by 19.46 per cent, and they handed into the state a profit 62 per cent greater than originally planned. Some big factories succeeded in reducing costs to an average of 8 per cent below the norm. The monthly output of fountain pens, rubber shoes and thermos-flasks in 1953 was double that produced in 1952.

Everyday, thousands of tons of machinery, equipment and articles of daily use leave Shanghai by train, ship and plane. They go to many places scattered all over the country—from faraway Sinkiang Province in the Northwest to China's southernmost Hainan Island. These Shanghai-made products are used in most of the factories, mines, cities and rural villages throughout the country as well as by geological prospecting teams in the remotest areas.

The volume of such shipments has increased each year. It grew 51 per cent between

1951 and 1952, and in the first half of 1953 it was 77 per cent above the corresponding period in the previous year. If all the materials that Shanghai sent to the rest of the country during 1953 were loaded on trains, they would fill 120,000 railway wagons which, if coupled together, would stretch over 1,700 kilometres.

Supplies Technicians

Shanghai has played an important role in sending skilled workers and technicians to construction projects and newly commissioned factories throughout

China. Since 1953, when the first five-year plan began, Shanghai has been dispatching large numbers of experienced workers, engineers and other technical personnel to new construction projects all over the land. More than 10,000 building personnel, including 200 technicians, have gone to help build China's first automobile plant. Over 2,000 skilled workers and leading cadres in production have been dispatched to the newly built textile mills in Sian, Peking, Hsiangtan and other cities. Cadres from Shanghai are working in the steel city of Anshan, in the geological prospecting teams in the remote border areas and on the building of the Chengtu-Paochi Railway.

In addition to transferring cadres with valuable practical experience to other parts of China, Shanghai is also training new technical cadres. The Shanghai Lathe Plant has trained 50 skilled workers for other places. The state-owned First Printing and Dyeing Mill has trained 42 workers for the Chiyi (July First) Textile Mill in Urumchi (Tihua), Sinkiang Province.

In the first year of the five-year plan, Shanghai workers, worthy of their great revo-

lutionary traditions, displayed a high degree of initiative and creativeness. They understand that every extra effort made and every achievement gained speeds the Socialist industrialization of the country.

When the East China Iron and Steel Products Plant received orders for steel structures for China's first automobile plant, its workers said: "The construction site of the automobile plant is the front, and we are the rear." They pledged to supply punctually the materials and equipment ordered for this new construction site. Many such orders have been filled ahead of schedule. Workers engaged on making the regulating gates at Sanhokou and along the Huai River displayed such high enthusiasm in their work that they com-

pleted them well ahead of the summer flood season. They increased labour productivity by 50 per cent and finished the task 25 days before the scheduled time. By improving working methods, the workers reduced the time needed for rolling operations in making narrow-gauge rails and raised labour productivity by 60 per cent. These achievements are typical of the success of the Shanghai workers, who are working hard for the successful completion of the first five-year plan.

China's planned economic construction has entered its second year. Shanghai will expand its industrial production further, and at the same time, it will play a still greater role in the Socialist industrialization of China.

Elections in Peking's Hsitan District

Our Correspondent

L OUDSPEAKERS set up in many places throughout the Hsitan District early on the morning of December 6, 1953, called the people to the polls.

"This is a great occasion . . . today we elect our deputies!"

The Hsitan District, with 240,000 inhabitants, is Peking's biggest district. The central institutions of the People's Government and the Communist Party of China are also situated here. In having the honour of holding the first elections in the capital to a district people's congress, Hsitan gave the lead to all the other districts; they would be able to learn from its experience.

At 8 o'clock on the morning of election day, dozens of voting booths opened their doors to

the 152,000 voters of the district. The streets were gaily decorated. Thousands of multi-coloured flags flew from rooftops and windows. Colourful posters called the voters to participate actively in the election. Huge banners hung in many places with the slogan: "Establish the system of people's congresses!" The character *hsi*—happiness—was displayed, as it is usually done on the biggest festivals, at the doors of shops and houses. The streets resounded to the music of drums and gongs. Firecrackers were let off. Somebody began to sing the words of *Everywhere the Flowers of Democracy Bloom* and immediately others took up the song.

From early morning the voters made their way in groups or singly to the polling stations.

Many were dressed in holiday wear and carried flowers and red flags. A column of workers going to vote carried a poster at their head calling on the working people to do their best in the building of a Socialist industry. A group of students on their way to the polling station danced and sang songs to the accompaniment of an accordion. Voters of the national minorities went to the booths in their gay national costumes. The slogans which they carried called for the strengthening of the unity of all the peoples of China. People above the age of eighteen from every strata of the population made their way to the polls.

The Voters

At one polling station, I met a woman worker, Ping Hsiu-ying. Her eyes were filled with tears of happy excitement. She had come with her little daughter—her twelfth child. "I come to vote for my child and our new life," she told me. Before the liberation, she had given birth to eleven children, but every one of them had died from hunger or disease. Her husband, a worker of a printing plant, received miserably low wages which were hardly enough

to support his family. In the winter, on freezing days, they were often driven onto the streets by the landlord because they could not pay the rent. They had to live right on the street, eating vegetable trash.

Ping Hsiu-ying and her husband are now both working at a printing plant and studying at evening school. Their wages cover all the needs of the family with something left to save. Rice and 'white flour, which were unattainable luxuries before, are now daily family dishes. Three years ago, Ping Hsiu-ying gave birth to a baby, but thanks to the care and help of the People's Government, it saw nothing of the bitter experiences which killed its brothers and sisters. Under the Labour Insurance Regulations, Ping Hsiu-ying received a fifty-six-day rest paid for by the plant. When she returned to work, her baby was taken into the creche for the workers' children run by the enterprise. As she put her voting card into the ballot box, Ping Hsiu-ying, from the bottom of her heart, thanked the Communist Party of China and the People's Government for bringing her family this new and happy life.

A young Mongolian by the name of Kantsoulik came to vote. Under the Kuomintang regime the Mongolian people were bitterly oppressed and exploited. The Kuomintang reactionaries sowed dissension between the Mongolians and the Hans. The landlords, bureaucrats and local despots of the Hans burnt the Mongolians' yurts, drove off their cattle, ravished the Mongolian women. In areas where Hans lived, the Mongolians dared not even speak in their native tongue. The people's revolution brought the light of a new day to the Mongolian steppelands. Mongolians and Hans now live together as friends and brothers. In the past, a youth from the Mongolian steppes could not even dream of entering school, but today, Kantsoulik is studying at the middle school attached to the Central Institute of National



Two mothers cast their votes in the Hsitan District, Peking

Minorities in the capital of the Chinese People's Republic.

At another polling station, I met Chang Ming-jang. He is a hundred and three years old, the oldest voter in the Hsitan District. He has seen much in his long life. He has seen the cruel domination of the reactionary regimes of the Manchu Dynasty, the Chinese militarists, the Japanese invaders and the Chiang Kai-shek clique. He has experienced all the blatant injustices of the old society built on force, oppression, exploitation, hypocrisy and lies. Chang's elder brother died from hunger and his own children were many times brutally beaten by the Kuomintang police. Only after the liberation did Chang Ming-jang breathe freely and live like a man. Despite his many years, he looks hale and hearty today. After he finished voting, he stayed at the polling station for a long time studying the posters, slogans and portraits hung on the walls and looking with undisguised satisfaction at the lively, happy picture of the voters as they came and went. How different was all this to what he had seen in the hundred years before liberation!

At another polling station I met several students from Peking's School for Overseas Chinese. They had returned to their motherland from various capitalist countries since the liberation. They told me what "democracy" was like in those countries where working men are deprived of their elementary rights. Thus, in England, every candidate during the elections must deposit a sum of a hundred and fifty pounds sterling. In America, anyone who votes for a Communist or other progressive is persecuted. Recalling this, they were especially proud of their beloved motherland and the democratic rights they now possess.

The voters include workers, office employees, students, merchants and industrialists, priests, housewives—a living demonstration of the unanimous support that all the people give



93-year-old Chi Pai-shih, the famous painter, puts his vote into a mobile ballot box brought to the homes of voters unable to make the journey to polling stations

to the people's democratic front headed by the Communist Party of China.

It was a cause of special pride to the voters of the Hsitan District that Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the great leader of the Chinese people, and his comrades-in-arms: Liu Shao-chi, Chou En-lai, Chu Teh, Kao Kang and others, and other leaders of the Central People's Government: Li Chi-shen, Chang Lan, Kuo Mo-jo, Huang Yen-pei, Teng Hsiao-ping and others also cast their votes in the district.

At the polling station the voters received their ballot papers, on each of which was printed a list of names of candidates who were nominated after weeks of keen discussions among the electors. The voters carefully checked through the list before they put a circle above the names of the candidates for whom they wished to vote, and a cross before the names of candidates whom they regarded as unsuitable. The voting was secret, but those who were illiterate or disabled got the aid of any friend or helper they chose. Each voter also had the right to add to the ballot paper the names of candidates whom they wished to vote for, if those names were not already on the ballot.

The Candidates

Voters greeted their candidates with glad enthusiasm. At one station, workers of an

automobile repair plant brought in their candidate, Model Worker Kung Ju-ching, high on their shoulders. Kung went to work while still a boy, and he has worked in the plant for seventeen years already. After the liberation, he became one of the most active workers and a tireless innovator. His rationalization proposals have enabled the plant to make great savings. When they put forward his candidature, voters explained: "The task of this election is to choose people who can lead us to Socialism. Who else should we choose but such a progressive and meritorious worker like Kung Ju-ching!"

At the polling station near Hsuanwumen Gate, voters formed a lively crowd around candidate Tu Juo. She is secretary of the Communist Party committee of the Hsitan District and chairman of the district people's government. Her candidature was unanimously supported by the voters. Residents in the Hsitan District know of her for a long time. More than fifteen years ago, while she was a student of Yenching University, Tu Juo joined the Communist Party and organized the students in the struggle against the reactionaries. When the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression began, she went into the countryside where she became one of the leaders of the resistance movement among the peasants, and also in the agrarian reform. In 1949, after the founding of the Chinese People's Republic, she returned to Peking. First, she worked in the Women's Federation, later on she was appointed secretary of the Party committee in the Hsitan District and chairman of the district people's government. Her tireless struggle for the victory of the people's revolution and for the building of the new, wonderful life of the Chinese people has won her the love of the people of the district and high prestige among them.

One elderly woman voter standing on the edge of the crowd told me: "Tu Juo is a tried and true pupil of Comrade Mao Tse-tung. All my family voted for her."

Employees of the Central People's Hospital came to the voting station together with their candidate, the young doctor, Huang Ta-yu. When the flames of war lit by the American imperialists in Korea approached the borders of China, Huang Ta-yu, true patriot of his motherland, set out with the Chinese People's

Volunteers to aid the Korean people. His dedicated work in tending the wounded earned the warm respect of all the People's Volunteers. The voters of the district in which he lives unanimously advanced his candidature as a deputy to the people's congress.

All the families of national minorities living on Fuwaita Chieh Street know their neighbour, the Muslim woman Liu Yueh-lan, as an active social worker. Four hundred Muslim voters and 3,600 Han voters put her forward as their candidate. Accepting the nomination, she thanked them for their trust and pledged: "I will try to do my work as a deputy as we are taught by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung."

Polling continued late into the night. More than 95 per cent of those eligible to vote cast their votes. Altogether 176 deputies were elected to the people's congress of the Hsitan District. Among them 32.3 per cent are workers; 15.3 per cent cadres; 10.2 per cent teachers and students; 5.1 per cent medical workers; 8.5 per cent merchants and industrialists; 2.2 per cent men of religion. The rest of the deputies are representatives of the handicraftsmen and peasants. Thirty per cent of the elected deputies are women, and 9 per cent are members of the national minorities.

These figures exemplify the great unity of the Chinese people. The electors of the Hsitan District vividly demonstrated, during their elections, that they are closely rallied around the People's Government, the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

CORRECTIONS: In issue No. 2 of *People's China*, the first sentence in the last paragraph of the first column on page 29 should read: "I recently visited the Changshan Islands which lie in the Yellow Sea 90 kilometres east of Dairen."

In the same issue, the caption to the picture at lower left on the second page of the pictorial section should read: "Bronze tripod (55 cm. high, 56 cm. wide between the two handles)."

Also, the main caption on the fourth page of the pictorial section of the same issue should read: "The No. 2 Automatic Power Plant in Sian, Shensi Province, was commissioned on October 9, 1953."

The "February 7" Strike of 1923

—A Landmark in the History of the Heroic
Struggle of the Chinese Working Class

Yang Shao-ying

THE general strike of the workers of the Peking-Hankow Railway which reached its climax on February 7, 1923, was the first big strike of a political nature carried out under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. It showed that the revolutionary movement of the Chinese working class had entered a new era, that the working-class movement was no longer limited to an economic struggle for the improvement of the workers' livelihood but had developed into a political struggle, a struggle for political rights, and especially for the right to form their own trade unions.

The Communist Party of China was formed on July 1, 1921, and from that time on the workers' movement in China has been led by the Party. Immediately after its formation, the Party established the "Secretariat of Chinese Labour Organizations" as the central organ for the leadership of the working class movement. It also formed many workers' schools, clubs and other organizations in the important factories and mines throughout the country, to unite the ranks of the workers and rally them for the revolutionary struggle.

In 1923, China was controlled by several brawling warlord reactionary cliques. The

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only exception was in the southern provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, where Dr. Sun Yat-sen carried on his revolutionary activities. These warlord cliques which represented the interests of the big landlords and bourgeoisie in various areas of the country were all hirelings of various foreign imperialists. The United States, Britain, Japan, and other imperialist powers manipulated them like puppets, instigated conflicts among them and used them as pawns in their plots for seizing Chinese territory as well as plundering and enslaving the Chinese people. These warlord cliques, along with the imperialists, were the bitter enemies of the people. Tsao Kun and Wu Pei-fu of the Chihli clique were the most powerful of the warlords, and it was they who dominated the central government in Peking. They controlled both North China and the middle reaches of the Yangtze River and were the main bulwark of the counter-revolutionaries in the country. They were backed by the Anglo-American imperialists.

Against Warlords and Imperialists

It was the brutal oppression and exploitation of the working people by these imperialists and feudal warlords which impelled the workers to rise in a resolute struggle against them. The Great October Socialist Revolution also gave a tremendous impetus to the Chinese working-class movement. It was under such condi-

tions that, following the establishment of the new workers' organizations led by the Party, the workers' movement in China gathered strength and swung into action throughout the country. From January, 1922 to January, 1923—a period of thirteen months—there were over a hundred large and small strikes involving some 300,000 workers. A strike wave swept through all the important factories and mines. Among the major ones were the great strike of the maritime workers employed by foreign shipping firms in Hongkong in January, 1922 and the strike by more than 40,000 workers of the Kailan Coal Mines in Tangshan, Hopei Province, in November of the same year. Both these strikes were launched as protests against the ruthless exploitation and maltreatment of workers practised by the owners of the enterprises, the foreign capitalists. During these strikes the workers were steeled politically and their political consciousness was raised. They came to understand that without political rights no economic gains were secure. Therefore, despite the brutal means employed by the reactionary authorities in the attempt to suppress them, the workers tenaciously fought back against political and economic oppression. Their continuing struggle for political rights became more resolute and widespread.

Old Conditions of Workers

The revolutionary struggle of the Peking-Hankow Railway workers developed on the rising tide of this workers' movement.

In 1923 the Peking-Hankow Railway was under the control of the warlord Wu Pei-fu, and this was the main source of the revenues he used to finance his army. The railway workers were therefore ruthlessly exploited. They were forced to work more than ten hours a day. Their wages varied from seven to ten silver *yuan* a month, and this was far from enough to maintain an ordinary family at even the humblest standard of living. Workers had only two days a month for rest, and they received no pay on these two days. No pay was given in case of absence from work due to illness or injuries sustained on the job. In addition to all this, they were oppressed and exploited by the agents of the foreign imperialists and feudal gang masters who battered on the rail-

way. Railway workers lived under conditions unfit even for cattle.

Strike At Changsintien

The workers had developed various primitive organizations in the past which they hoped would help them in their resistance to their oppressors, but these organizations, lacking correct political objectives, had been unable to give the workers a real lead or start an organized revolutionary movement. In 1921, however, Teng Chung-hsia, one of the founders of the north China branches of the Chinese Communist Party, began to organize the railway workers at Changsintien Station on the Peking-Hankow Railway, 20 kilometres south of Peking. He founded a spare-time school for workers and organized the Changsintien Workers' Club. Finally, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the workers of Changsintien called a strike in August, 1922. It was supported by the entire body of workers of the line and was a big success. It won for them the eight-hour day, rest days with pay, a wage increase and other rights, including the transfer of temporary workers to the roster of regular workers.

The victory won in this strike greatly encouraged the workers and gave them confidence. It brought the truth home to them that only through organization and resolute struggle could they defend their rights and improve their livelihood.

By the end of 1922 the Party had made further progress in organizing the railway workers. Trade union organizations were formed at sixteen stations on the line. The need of a central organization was felt, and on January 5, 1923 the Preparatory Committee for the Trade Union Council of the Peking-Hankow Railway announced that a Trade Union Council for the line would be established at Chengchow, Honan Province, on February 1, 1923.

The Preparatory Committee advertised the opening ceremony of the Trade Union Council in the press. They also sent a notification to Chao Chi-hsien, Director of the Bureau of Administration for the Northern Section of the Peking-Hankow Railway. Chao, however, played a double-dealing trick on the workers. He publicly gave permission to the workers to



The worker-revolutionary Lin Hsiang-chien defies his executioners at Chiangan in 1923

Oil-painting by Li Tien-hsiang

hold the meeting but secretly wired Wu Pei-fu and asked him to ban it. Wu Pei-fu ordered Huang Tien-chen, police prefect of Chengchow, and the Commander of the Fourteenth Division then stationed at Chengchow, to prevent the meeting by force.

The workers, however, stood on their rights, continued their preparations for the meeting and ignored Wu Pei-fu's ban. February 1, the scheduled day of the meeting to celebrate the founding of the Trade Union Council, saw Chengchow heavily guarded by Wu's troops and police force. But the workers were not to be browbeaten. More than a thousand delegates, guests and railway workers of Chengchow came to the gathering. Early in the morning they marched towards the Pu Lo Yuan Theatre, where the meeting was to be held. They forced their way through one armed cordon after another until finally they reached the theatre. They found it had been padlocked

by the police. They broke the locks and went in. The meeting began triumphantly. When Li Chen-ying, secretary-general of the Trade Union Council, formally announced the establishment of the Trade Union Council of the Peking-Hankow Railway, the hall resounded with music, applause and cheers of "Long live the victory of the working class!" and "Long live the Trade Union Council of the Peking-Hankow Railway!" When Huang Tien-chen, police prefect of Chengchow, appeared on the platform and shouted, "Close the meeting!", he was hustled off the platform by the workers. On the conclusion of the meeting the delegates and guests were again molested by the reactionary troops and police force who occupied the meeting hall and the office of the Trade Union Council in Chengchow.

The Trade Union Council met in conference that same evening. It was decided to answer the insults and repression by the reactionary

authorities with a general strike of all workers on the line. Five demands were advanced: (1) dismissal of Chao Chi-hsien, Director of the Bureau of Administration for the Northern Section of the Peking-Hankow Railway, and Huang Tien-chen, police prefect of Chengchow; (2) compensation for losses; (3) return of all the banners and presents which had been sent to the Council and were confiscated by the police; withdrawal of all troops and police from the Council's Chengchow office and the tendering of an apology for their illegal action; (4) one day's rest with pay each week; and (5) a seven-day holiday with pay during the Spring Festival.

General Strike Called

The Trade Union Council called on all workers of the line to start a general strike and wage this struggle for freedom and human rights from noon, February 4. To facilitate the work of leadership, the Trade Union Council moved its headquarters to Chiangan Station near Hankow.

Every worker on the line enthusiastically responded to the call of the Trade Union Council. On February 4, from Peking to Hankow, the whole length of this important artery of communication was paralysed.

During the strike the workers demonstrated a high level of organization and discipline. Special workers' pickets maintained order at every point. Propaganda squads organized by the trade unions explained to the people why the strike was held. Travellers stranded on their way as a result of the strike received warm help and care. Neither threats nor bribery from the troops and police succeeded in breaking the workers' solidarity. The entire body of railway workers rallied around their Trade Union Council and steadfastly supported their strike and struggle.

The strike put the imperialists into a panic. The diplomatic corps of the imperialist powers called an emergency meeting in Peking and sent a strongly worded note to the Peking government. It was meant to press the warlord government into suppressing the strike by force. The British consul in Hankow called a meeting of local British capitalists, and this was attended by representatives of Hsiao Yao-

nan, Tuchun (governor-general) of Hupeh Province. In the afternoon of February 7, Hsiao ordered Chang Hou-sheng, chief-of-staff of the headquarters of the Hankow garrison commander, to lead a detachment of troops to close the office of the Trade Union Council of the Peking-Hankow Railway at Chiangan. The workers' pickets guarding the office fought a hand-to-hand battle with the troops. They held out for several hours and only withdrew on the order of the Trade Union Council. Chang Hou-sheng's troops occupied the office and arrested a number of workers. In the evening he ordered his men to tie the arrested workers to telegraph poles in a public square. Among these workers was Lin Hsiang-chien, chairman of the branch office of the Trade Union Council at Chiangan and a member of the Communist Party. Chang Hou-sheng recognized him and tried to compel him to issue an order to the workers to resume work.

"Are you going to resume work or not?" demanded Chang Hou-sheng fiercely.

"No!" curtly replied Lin Hsiang-chien.

Chang ordered the executioner to give Lin a slash with his sword and then asked him:

"Now give your final answer, yes or no?"

"No!" said Lin. "Without the permission of the Trade Union Council we will never resume work!"

He was struck and cut again. Chang asked once more: "Are you going to resume work or not?"

Lin's body was now covered with blood. He bore this ordeal with unshaken firmness. Before his death he shouted in defiance at his murderers:

"I will die rather than resume work. What a tragedy that this beloved country of ours is betrayed by such a gang of scoundrels as you!"

With this, Lin Hsiang-chien heroically met his death.

That same evening the police in Wuchang arrested Shih Yang, another Party member who had been vigorously carrying on revolutionary

work among the workers. Hsiao Yao-nan subjected him to terrible torture, but he held out and refused to submit to his persecutor's demands. On February 15, he died a hero's death at Wuchang.

On February 7 the garrison troops at Changsintien opened fire on the workers there. Four workers were killed on the spot, more than thirty were severely wounded, and many more suffered minor injuries. The news of this massacre of the workers by the warlords spread over the country. The workers of all the big factories in Hankow and Wuchang declared a general strike in an act of protest against this crime. The workers of the Taokow-Chinghua, Shihchiachuang-Taiyuan, Tientsin-Pukow, Canton-Hankow, and Peking-Suiyuan Railways also came out on strike. The citizens and students of Peking held demonstrations; a memorial meeting for the victims was attended by more than 5,000 people.

Confronted with this nation-wide movement of resistance, the imperialists and warlords were thoroughly alarmed. They decided to resort to still more cruel repressions in an attempt to break the strike. Marines of the imperialist powers were landed at Hankow and Wuchang and attempted to intimidate the workers by a show of armed strength. The workers of the Peking-Hankow Railway, however, were not to be bluffed into submission. It was only when the Trade Union Council gave the word that they returned to work with sorrow in their hearts for their martyred comrades and bitter anger against the Chinese reactionaries and imperialists.

The "February 7" Strike wrote a glorious page in the history of the workers' movement in China. It showed the high level of organization attained by the working people, and the swift growth of their revolutionary activity. It greatly raised the political prestige of the working class and the Chinese Communist Party in the eyes of the Chinese people. The heroic and militant spirit displayed by the workers in the "February 7" Strike has continued to inspire the working class throughout the succeeding years of the struggle for liberation.

The experience and lessons gained by the workers in the "February 7" Strike showed that, in order to defeat the reactionaries armed to the teeth in a country where democratic rights were unknown, the working class must have strong allies and their own armed forces. Learning the bitter lessons of the "February 7" Strike, the workers' movement, led by the Chinese Communist Party, took the only correct course—to lead the people of the whole nation to form an anti-imperialist and anti-feudal united front and oppose armed counter-revolution with armed revolution.

In 1949, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese Communist Party, the working class finally achieved its emancipation and became the leading class in China. But the revolutionary spirit of the "February 7" Strike will live forever in the hearts of all the Chinese working people. It will forever remain a source of inspiration to the Chinese working class as it leads the Chinese people forward to Socialism, to the bright and happy future.

Hsu Pei-hung

— An Outstanding Painter

Ai Chung-hsin

*Professor of the Central Institute
of Fine Arts*

THOUSANDS of the people of Peking—workers, cadres, students, men and women, young and old—have in the last few weeks been to the memorial exhibition of the works of the painter Hsu Pei-hung (Ju Pe-on), who has recently passed away. The large exhibition hall in Chungshan Park is filled with 226 paintings and drawings done by the artist during the last thirty years.

Hsu Pei-hung was not only an eminent painter but also an outstanding teacher of art. He matured as an artist when the doctrines of the cubists and other post-impressionists had spread widely over Western Europe; Chinese painting, meanwhile, was dominated by slavish academic copyists of the works of the “Four Wangs”* and Pa Ta† of the early Ching times, as well as the mannered paintings of the “literati.” Hsu Pei-hung was strong enough to break through the paralysing bonds of this academicism and seek a path of advance to modern themes and art. He learnt from the rich tradition of realism in Chinese art and the realistic art of the West. His works show a highly accomplished technique and a strong national character. During the last thirty years he was an uncompromising opponent of the influence of formalistic or abstract art from abroad; he resolutely fought against the “dead

hand” of the “literati” painters at home and the tendency to use worn-out formulas in art.

Hsu Pei-hung called on artists to study from nature and advocated the creation of a modern realistic art. He introduced into China the representative works of Western realistic artists of various periods and the techniques of painting evolved in Europe. He devoted much of his efforts to teaching the younger generation. He was a pioneer of sound modern methods for the teaching of the techniques of painting both in oils and in Chinese ink and helped to lay the foundation for the development of modern Chinese art education.

Early Development

Hsu Pei-hung was born in a poor rural family at Ihing, Kiangsu Province, in 1895. His father was a portrait painter who just managed to support his family by teaching at the village school and working a half-acre plot. While still a child, Hsu Pei-hung began to learn painting from his father and worked side by side with him in the fields. His education was strict and he early developed a serious attitude towards study and work. Assiduous study quickly developed his artistic talent.

In 1918, only twenty-four years of age, he became a lecturer of the painting society sponsored by Peking University. In the following year, he received a government scholarship and went to France, where he studied under several French art teachers, Cormon, Dagnan-Bouveret and Flameng and Albert Besnard. His eight years in France were spent in straitened cir-

* Wang Shih-min, Wang Chien, Wang Hui and Wang Yuan-chi—all painters of the early Ching Dynasty. Their works were stereotyped and inanimate copies of the old masters.

† Pa Ta Shan Jen, pseudonym of Chu Ta, another early Ching painter.

cumstances, but he continued his studies unremittingly in both the technique and theory of painting. His extensive study of realistic art, both ancient and modern—the classical paintings of China, of ancient Greece, the Renaissance, and of Russia—finally brought him to the path he was to follow in his own creative activity.

By combining what he learnt from the great tradition of Chinese painting with the realistic techniques of Western art, Hsu Pei-hung created a characteristic style of his own that is an important contribution to the modern school of Chinese national art. His talent is best seen in his paintings in Chinese ink. These are highly expressive and full of vitality. His oil paintings, drawings and sketches in pencil are mature productions.

Hsu Pei-hung displays a profound understanding of the Western theory of painting, especially in the making of sketches and the use of light and shade. He was thus able to effectively apply the method of sketching from nature to his paintings in Chinese ink, which evince both a modern realistic touch and true national character. He broke through the conventions that stultified the painting of so many artists and achieved works which are spirited and original. His horses, which are particularly prized and are one of his favourite subjects, are anatomically correct; they are solidly conceived; a sure treatment of light and shade molds their form and, what is even more important, they are intensely alive and impart an inspiring sense of strength and nobility. They are very representative of the artist's style. Hsu Pei-hung was able to fill with vitality an object painted in strict conformity with its natural form. With a technique adequate to his conception, he was able to imbue his paintings with his strong emotional reaction to his theme and subject. His paintings of an eagle soaring in the air or geese swimming lazily in a pond on a summer day are typical of his talent in giving artistic expression to the world of nature.

Hsu Pei-hung always stressed the necessity of fresh perceptual experience. He opposed the methods of artists who relied on second-hand experience and a stale fund of impressions. "Unless the artist constantly enriches and renews his experience of life," he would say, "he will paint things as flavourless as wine mixed with too much water." This direct observation of life was one of the chief characteristics of his realistic art. Taking life as his starting point, he reinforced his impressions with scientific knowledge, a fresh creative imagination and emotional force. He was able to bring out the exquisite beauty of the common flowers and grass.

Social Themes

Expressing his love for his country and people, Hsu Pei-hung entered the realm of direct social comment in his painting. Coming from among the peasants, he understood the sufferings brought to them by imperialist aggression and feudal rule. After the failure of the First Revolutionary Civil War as a result of Chiang Kai-shek's betrayal, Hsu showed deep



Hsu Pei-hung working on his last painting "Lu Hsun and Chu Chiu-pai"

concern for the increasing sufferings of the people. His works began to show a richer content.

Between 1930-33, he completed his large oil painting *Waiting for the Emancipator*. This is one of his major works. The title is a quotation taken from the *Book of History*, referring to the hope of the people for an emancipator when they were suffering at the hands of a tyrant. The peasants, in Hsu Pei-hung's picture, emaciated and suffering from famine and drought, look up into the sky for the rain which symbolizes the liberation they are eagerly awaiting. In this work the painter expresses his sympathy with the oppressed and his dissatisfaction with the ruling class. Under the reactionary Kuomintang regime, Chinese painters were often forced to express their ideas in circumlocutory fashion. There is also a popular artistic tradition of conveying thoughts by means of symbols or allegory. *Crowing before the Storm* (1937) was painted as the heroic Chinese people rose against the Japanese invaders. It shows the herald of the dawn, standing on a rock, shrilling his message in defiance of the storm. *Angry Looks* is another painting of this type done in 1939. It compares the invincible strength of the Chinese people to that of a lion and the vicious guile of Japanese imperialism to that of a serpent.

Landscape Paintings

His love for China also found expression in his landscape paintings. He has created impressive paintings of Omei and Chingcheng Mountains in Szechuan, and the mountains near Kweilin, which are renowned for their unusual beauty. These paintings well exemplify his vigorous and resourceful use of brush, ink and paper. He liked to use a brush of large size or several brushes tied together like a small broom to give his strokes a grand, "spattering" effect. He was also adept at bringing out the main features of an object with a few rich yet simple strokes.

As a realistic artist, Hsu Pei-hung held folk art in high esteem. It was he who did so much to direct public attention to the works of Chang Ching-hu, a folk artist of Tientsin whose family had been craftsmen of exquisite clay figures for three generations. He gave similar vigorous

support to other branches of folk art, including the woodcut. When in Chungking in 1942, he wrote articles praising the woodcuts of the artists of the old Liberated Area and especially Ku Yuan. At that time this was a courageous act in defiance of the gangster Kuomintang regime.

Hsu Pei-hung was very active in bringing a knowledge of Chinese art to the peoples of other lands. In 1934 he organized exhibitions of modern Chinese paintings in France, Germany, Italy and the Soviet Union. His journey to the U.S.S.R., in particular, opened his eyes to the superiority of the Socialist system of society and the Socialist realism of Soviet art. He was impressed by the achievements of Russian art, especially the realistic art of the *Peredvizhniki*, Repin and others. This strengthened his opposition to formalism. He formed friendships with several outstanding Soviet artists and made proposals for an exchange of works of art so as to strengthen cultural ties between the two countries. His proposals were carried out, and they did much to promote cultural interchanges between the two countries and enhance mutual understanding between the two peoples.

Teacher of Art

Hsu Pei-hung was an understanding and devoted teacher of art. He taught for many years. China has had only a short history of modern public education in the fine arts, but a great share of credit must go to his efforts which ensured that, from its very beginning, a struggle has been waged against formalism. Putting his own high attainments in art, his wide knowledge and enthusiasm at the service of educating the youth, he helped to lay a firm foundation for the realistic development of modern Chinese art.

He specially stressed drawing and sketching from life, which he considered to be one of the most important parts of the training of an artist. This in itself had considerable progressive significance in the art education of old China. His aim was to enable students by strictly disciplined study to acquire perfect skill and master the correct creative method of painting real objects. The main principle of painting reality, according to him, was close observation and understanding of objective

reality and a high level of technical proficiency; he held that an artist should be able to grasp what is essential in a theme, ignore the unessential and have the power of generalization.

He was always on the lookout for artistic talent, and with the love of a gardener for his young blooms, he was assiduous in helping young artists advance their art, whether students of his own school or not. He was always concerned not to let talent go to waste.

Art education was reduced to a state of chaos in China under Kuomintang rule. Influenced by the formalism of Western European bourgeois art, some teachers of painting paid no attention to drawing from nature. They stressed "individuality" and "free creation." But this license amounted to allowing students to paint in whatever way they liked and form the bad habit of taking the line of least resistance. In studying the Chinese style of painting, students were usually encouraged to slavishly copy the ancient masters. This fettered the young artists' creative imagination. Hsu Pei-hung fought staunchly against these tendencies but his progressive ideas of art education could not be developed in the old society.

Hsu Pei-hung was a progressive artist, but it cannot be denied that the concept of art education he held before the liberation had its weaknesses. It was still influenced by the backward ideas of the past. It was still limited to the categories of the realism of bourgeois art. In other words, he failed to link up the aim of education with the needs of the broad masses of the people and make these the starting point of art education. Though he did not succeed in finding the right path in his political thinking, he used his painting as a means of expressing his dissatisfaction with the reactionary order of things. But in 1945, as the democratic movement in the areas under Kuomintang rule surged upwards, his political views became more sharply defined. Together with other democratic elements, he signed a petition against the Chiang Kai-shek dictatorship, demanding the abolition of one-party government and the establishment of a democratic coalition government. For this patriotic act the reactionaries threatened him with persecution. Although he lived in the darkness of the Kuomintang-controlled areas, he never lost



Portrait of Sir Rabindranath Tagore (1940)
Drawing by Hsu Pei-hung

faith that the dawn of freedom would finally come.

Post-Liberation Work

In 1949, the Central People's Government was established. Hsu Pei-hung was appointed director of the Central Institute of Fine Arts. He won the confidence and respect of all. At the meeting held on the day the institute was founded he said with deep feeling: "This is the greatest honour ever paid to me." He expressed his determination to exert his utmost efforts to train young artists under the leadership of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. During the last three years, although handicapped by illness, he worked for this aim with great selflessness. He came to see more clearly how the people's art must be coordinated with the people's needs, and he overcame the weaknesses which marred his aesthetic thought in the past. He encouraged the instructors and students of the institute to go out to the liberated countryside and participate in the democratic reform movements going on in the factories. He exhorted them to work hard, to paint more pictures truly worthy of the new era of the people. He himself

took an active part in many kinds of political and social activities and he continued uninterruptedly his work as an artist. He started work on the picture *Chairman Mao Among the People* and a portrait group of Lu Hsun with the young revolutionary writer Chu Chiu-pai. Following Chairman Mao Tse-tung's teachings to put literature and art at the service of the people, he went to visit the great Yi River water conservancy project in Shantung Province to gain first-hand knowledge of the life of its builders. Gathering material for future paintings, he drew many portrait

sketches of model workers there. But before these could be completed, he succumbed to an attack of apoplexy on September 26, 1953.

Hsu Pei-hung worked hard and devotedly throughout his life for the creation of a realistic art, and he made great contributions to modern Chinese art. The artistic legacy which he has left will constitute a part of the art heritage of the Chinese people. As they advance along the path of Socialist realism, artists, both present and future, will draw inspiration from his works.

Book Review

The Works of Chu Chiu-pai

Feng Hsueh-feng



Chu Chiu-pai

THE recent publication of the *Works of Chu Chiu-pai* by the People's Literature Publishing House is an important event in the cultural life of the Chinese people. Comrade Chu Chiu-pai was one of the earliest Marxists in China, a staunch Communist and also a talented revolutionary writer, an outstanding literary critic and translator of literary works. Though he was brutally murdered by the Kuomintang reactionaries in 1935 at the early age of thirty-six, Chu Chiu-pai had already rendered distinguished service to the revolution. His literary works have contributed immensely to the development of the revolutionary literature of the Chinese people.

In the grim years of reactionary rule, Chu Chiu-pai's writings and translations were preserved at the risk of their lives by his friends—

The reviewer is a well-known literary critic.

the great Lu Hsun and other comrades. And it is only now after the liberation that it is possible to publish them in full.

Four Volumes

All Chu Chiu-pai's original literary works and the translations made by him have been collected in these four volumes. The first volume contains his essays and miscellaneous articles. The second volume contains his essays of literary criticism, draft plans for a new Chinese written language and translations of classical Marxist works on literary theory and art including Engels' essays on Balzac and Ibsen and Lenin's essay on Leo Tolstoy. The third and fourth volumes contain his translations of literary works including pieces by Maxim Gorky, Alexander Pushkin's poem, *The Gypsies*, the works of Leo Tolstoy and others.

The first three volumes have already appeared and the last volume will be published soon.

Chu Chiu-pai's literary works are deeply inspired with the ideas of the revolutionary struggle in which he himself was an active participant. Chu Chiu-pai was one of the leaders of the May fourth patriotic movement in 1919. He was only twenty at that time. Two years later, he went to the Soviet Union as a journalist. He sent back to China many vivid reports and wrote in addition two books—*A Trip to New Russia* and *Reflections in the Red Capital*, which were the earliest literary writings in China dealing with the political as well as social aspects of the world's first Socialist state in its initial stage. With great sincerity, the author in these two works describes his own ideological transformation—how he became a Communist. That was why these two books exercised so profound an influence among the writers of the new Chinese literature and played a cogent role in forming the revolutionary outlook of the foremost representatives of the Chinese people. Furthermore, they are important documents for the study of the history of social thought in China as well as fine models of modern Chinese literature.

Brilliant Political Essays

Comrade Chu Chiu-pai joined the Communist Party of China in 1922. He returned from the Soviet Union in the spring of the following year. Upon his return, he wrote two short political essays—*The Immediate Problem* and *Back From Red Russia*, in which he pungently dissected the political situation in China under the rule of the imperialists and the warlords. These were the forerunners of a whole series of brilliant political and miscellaneous essays in which he relentlessly exposed the reactionaries and reactionary trends in thought and subjected them to devastating blows. His miscellaneous essays had a distinct style of their own, and they are worthy to be compared to Lu Hsun's immortal miscellaneous essays. At a time when the reactionaries held sway in China, these essays were heavy blows struck at the enemies of the revolution. They have not lost their value today, when the Chinese people's revolution has won its victory. These works have a permanent place in the history of China's new literature.

Chu Chiu-pai's literary criticism, his studies and translations of foreign literature also had a tremendous influence on the development of China's new literature. He was one of the first in China to advocate that literature should serve the revolution. He was one of the first and the most prominent in China to promote and inspire the proletarian literature of China. He was also a distinguished propagandist of progressive revolutionary literature. He introduced Chinese readers to works by Marx, Engels and Lenin on literary theory and art. He wrote a series of essays analysing the works of Lu Hsun as well as many other brilliant essays of literary criticism. Thus he laid the first firm foundations of Marxist literary criticism in China while he himself became one of the forerunners of the new literature of China based on Socialist realism.

His translations of foreign literature still remain as fine models of translation today. This is not merely because of the fact that the originals on which he had based his translations were mostly the best in world literature, but also because of the fact that his translations are exact, clear and beautifully executed.

He was many-sided in his interests and talents. This is shown in his studies in the Chinese language. His essays on the Han language and his draft project for the reform of the Chinese written language cannot be considered fully satisfactory, nevertheless, the questions he raised and the opinions he put forward are of great significance to the study of the Chinese language and the preparation of language reform in China. Certain individual defects contained in this collection, however, will not lower the total value of his works as part of the heritage of Chinese literature.

Militant in spirit and inspired by Communist ideology, the works of Comrade Chu Chiu-pai have played a powerful part in the development of the Chinese people's revolutionary struggle. The preface to these collected works says: "These works... sharply reflect the essential significance of the age; they clearly define the aims of the social struggle." The publication of the *Works of Chu Chiu-pai* will be of great assistance to all those who are interested in the history of the development of modern Chinese literature.

CHINA TODAY

Chairman Mao's Works

Volume I of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* has recently been published in English by the Lawrence and Wishart, Ltd., London, and by the People's Publishing House, Bombay, India. A Rumanian edition has also been published recently in Bucharest, Rumania.

Several important works written by Mao Tse-tung between 1926-1945 have recently been published in the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam. They include *The Analysis of Classes in Chinese Society, A Report on Investigations into the Peasant Movement in Hunan* and the article *How to Analyse Rural Classes*. The *People's News*, organ of the Central Committee of the Lao Dong Party of Viet-Nam, introduced these works of Mao Tse-tung with a special article.

Production Plans Fulfilled

Workers and staffs of many state-owned and state and private jointly operated factories and mines throughout the country have worked with great enthusiasm to fulfil ahead of schedule their annual production targets for the first year of the first five-year plan. They achieved many remarkable successes in the movement to increase production and practise economy.

By December 25, 1953, the Anshan Iron and Steel Company overfulfilled its 1953 targets in all its 14 major items of production. The pig iron target was surpassed by 7.6%, medium-sized rolled steel by 17.2% and sheet steel by 27.9%. The quality of all major products met or surpassed the standards set by the state. Labour produc-

tivity has been raised by over 10% above the target norm, while costs of production have been greatly lowered.

The state-owned coal mines also completed their plans 9 days ahead of schedule.

In Shanghai, 19 state-owned cotton mills and 4 state-owned printing and dyeing factories completed their annual plans 8 to 9 days and 16 days respectively ahead of schedule. Shanghai cotton mills produced altogether 18,000 extra bales of cotton yarn and over 350,000 extra bolts of cloth this year.

The Hsiangtan Electrical Machinery Works in Hunan Province fulfilled its annual production plan a month ahead of schedule. In 11 months of 1953, it doubled its output for the whole of 1952.

Agricultural Producers' Coops

In 1953, the over 14,000 agricultural producers' cooperatives in China registered new achievements in production. Newly established agricultural producers' cooperatives in the two administrative regions in northern Shansi Province raised their output by 40-80% compared with that of 1952. In Shantung Province, the per-unit-area yield of 694 of the 761 agricultural producers' cooperatives investigated were all 10-50% above that of individual peasants and mutual-aid teams in the same area.

Incomes of cooperative members have risen as a result of increases in production. The average amount of grain and other agricultural products received by each member of the Ma Ting-hai Cooperative in Shensi Province was

50-60% more than that harvested by individual peasants in the same district. In 1953, nearly one-third of the members of the eight cooperatives in Szechuan Province earned 50% more than in 1952.

The better crops raised by agricultural producers' cooperatives and the higher incomes of their members are making more and more peasants realize the superiority of this form of cooperative organization. Technical and material assistance given by cooperatives to individual peasants is further convincing them that, in order to fundamentally improve their living conditions and raise production, they should join mutual-aid teams or agricultural producers' cooperatives. After the autumn harvest last year, 134 mutual-aid teams and 2,600 individual peasants in the Changchi Administrative Region, Shansi Province, decided to organize or join agricultural producers' cooperatives. This year, the mutual-aid and cooperative movement in agriculture will be extended on an even wider scale. It is expected that the number of agricultural producers' cooperatives throughout the country will number over 45,000 by the end of this year, making an increase of 200% over last year.

Building Greater Peking

In 1953, many living-quarters and office buildings with a total floor space of 2,500,000 square metres have been built in Peking—the capital of the People's Republic of China. This is equal to one-fifth of the total floor space of houses in Peking at the time of

liberation. Besides this, over 80 km. of underground conduits and over 110 km. of tap-water pipes have been newly laid. Two hundred kilometres of roadway have been repaired, improved and newly built, and five new tram and bus routes have been started.

The newly built or expanded buildings include over 100 dormitories for various kinds of schools and over 30 medical institutions. Several peasants' hostels with a total of over 1,000 rooms were completed in 1953.

Several new factories and works producing metal components, wood, bricks, glazed tiles, stone and other building materials were also commissioned last year to meet the needs of large-scale construction in North China and Peking.

New Bridges

Thorough preparatory work was started on November 27 last year to build the new iron bridge across the Han River at Wuhan City. Wuhan, which comprises the three cities of Wuchang, Hankow and Hanyang, is an important railway centre connecting Peking in the north and Canton in the south. It is also a big port for Yangtze navigation. The lack of bridges spanning the Han and Yangtze Rivers has, however, been a serious handicap to freight and passenger services in the triple-city.

The project of which the Han River Bridge is a part includes the construction of a railway line to connect the Hankow terminus of the Peking-Hankow line with Hanyang, a new station at Hanyang, and the building of the first bridge over the Yangtze River to provide a direct link be-

tween Peking, Wuhan and Canton. Preparations for the building of the Yangtze River Bridge are well in hand.

Mechanized methods will be extensively used in the construction of the Han River Bridge, particularly in under-water pile driving and in the building of the supporting piers during the short low-water season.

Completion of the Han River Bridge will facilitate transport of building materials from Hankow to Hanyang for the building of the Yangtze River Bridge.

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A 781-metre steel bridge has now been completed over the Hsiang River in Hunan Province after nearly 5 months' work. This bridge brings a branch line of the Canton-Hankow Railway from Taichow Station to Hsiangtan City, near the birthplace of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, and now a rapidly developing industrial city. A new railway is also projected to link Kweichow and Hunan Provinces and join up with the Canton-Hankow Railway at this point.

Workers and technicians who have gained rich experience in building the Hsiang River Bridge will be transferred to the construction of the Yangtze River Bridge.

Publications for Minority Peoples

The number of books published in the languages of the national minorities has shown a steady increase in recent years. Over 2,220,000 copies of books under 176 titles were printed in Mongolian, Tibetan, Uighur and Kazakh in 1951. In 1952, this increased to 4,390,000

copies under 376 titles. In 1953, the Nationality Publishing House alone published about 1,300,000 copies of books under 142 titles together with over 140,000 copies of 23 different new year pictures in the Mongolian, Tibetan, Uighur, Kazakh and Korean languages. These publications include classical works of Marxism-Leninism and the writings of Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the texts of decrees and documents concerning the policies of the Central People's Government as well as works by Chinese writers and artists.

A great number of books has also been printed in the national minority languages by various local publishing houses in the minority areas. Up to July, 1953, over 3 million copies under 385 titles had been run off the presses in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, while in 1952 over 2,500,000 copies of books in Uighur, Kazakh, Mongolian and other minority languages were published by the Sinkiang People's Publishing House. The People's Government of the Yenpien Korean Autonomous Region, Northeast China, has also printed over 12 million books under more than 500 titles in the Korean language.

The works of Mao Tse-tung translated into various minority languages have a wide circulation among the national minority peoples. Editions have been published totalling 170,000 copies of Volume I of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* in the Mongolian language and 375,000 copies in the Uighur and Kazakh languages. Volume II of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* is now being translated into the Mongolian, Uighur and Kazakh languages.



BUMPER HARVEST. Design for a square pillow

*Woodcut by Liu Shu-chieh
and Liu Wen-yu*